

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL, PORIRUA CITY COUNCIL AND GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE CONSENT
Section 93(2) Resource Management Act 1991

Wellington City Council (WCC), Porirua City Council (PCC) and Greater Wellington Regional Council (GW) have received the following applications for resource consent:

Name of applicant: Meridian Energy Limited

Applicant's address for service: Lynley Fletcher
Consents Manager
Meridian Energy Limited
PO Box 10 840
WELLINGTON

Location: The general location of the site is between Ohariu Valley and Wellington's west coast. The site is located 12km south of Porirua and 8km north of Wellington, and covers approximately 18km² of pastoral land. The application also relates to Spicer Forest (WCC) for access, and a small portion of the works are within the Porirua City Council jurisdiction (Spicer Landfill) to link Broken Hill Road (Porirua City) with Ohariu Valley Road (Wellington City) for use by wind farm construction traffic.

Type of consent sought: Land Use; Water and Discharge Permits

WCC Service Request number: 176538
PCC Reference: RC 5202 – LU0048/08
GW Reference: WGN080368

Description of proposal: Consent is requested for the construction, operation and maintenance of a wind farm and ancillary activities.

The proposed wind farm, commonly known as Project Mill Creek, will have 31 wind turbines with a total capacity of up to 71.3 megawatts (MW). It includes:

- The erection of 31 2.3MW wind turbines of up to 111 metres in height.
- The erection of 31 transformers, each housed in a cubicle steel box adjacent to the turbines.
- Land disturbance, including cut and fill volumes of up to 814 700 cubic metres, to create turbine platforms and access tracks and roads
- The installation of an internal transmission network.
- The erection of two 70 metre high wind monitoring masts.
- The erection and operation of an electricity substation and an operations and maintenance building.
- Realignment of a section of the overhead HVDC earth electrode transmission line located on the site.
- A range of temporary construction activities including but not limited to on-site concrete batching, geotechnical investigations, extraction and processing of basecourse aggregate, site offices and ancillary activities.
- Discharges to air from an onsite concrete batching plant.
- Disturbance, placement of structures, diversions and reclamations works within stream beds.
- Discharges of stormwater from disturbed areas to land and surface water during construction.

Consents sought from Wellington City Council – SR 176538

Under the Wellington City District Plan, the majority of the subject site is located within the Rural Area, with part of the access road being in an Open Space B Area.

Under the Operative District Plan and as amended by Proposed District Plan Changes 32 [Renewable Energy] and 33 [Ridgelines and Hilltops and Rural Area] resource consent is required as a Discretionary Activity (Unrestricted) for the following aspects of the proposal:

- Construction and operation of the wind turbines and associated maintenance and ancillary structures
- Construction of the Spicer Forest access road
- Earthworks
- Construction of a temporary concrete batching plant
- Connection lines to the 220kV transmission network and relocation of the HVDC earth electrode transmission line
- Construction, operation and maintenance of a substation and maintenance building
- Construction of temporary buildings
- Quarrying and processing of aggregates
- Installation of wind monitoring masts/anemometers
- Storing and handling of hazardous substances
- Works on a contaminated site (access road)

Consents sought from Porirua City Council – RC 5202 – LU0048/08

Resource consent is required for the construction (including earthworks) and use of approximately 450 metres of the proposed Spicer Forest access road within the Spicer Landfill site. This is classified as a Discretionary Activity (Unrestricted) in the Rural Zone of the operative Porirua City District Plan.

Consents sought from Greater Wellington Regional Council – WGN080368

WGN080368: Roding, tracking and earthworks - Discretionary Activity (Restricted)

[26776] Land use consent to disturb soil in association with the construction of roads and tracks.

[26846] Land use consent to disturb soil on erosion prone land in association with the construction of turbine platforms, laydown areas and building platforms.

WGN080368: Discharges to land and surface water - Discretionary Activity (Restricted)

[26778] Discharge permit to discharge stormwater, contaminated with sediment, to land that may enter surface water from areas of bulk earthworks.

[26779] Discharge permit to discharge stormwater, contaminated with sediment, to surface water from areas of bulk earthworks exceeding 0.3 hectares.

[26847] Discharge permit to discharge stormwater contaminated with sediment, to land that may enter surface water from mobile aggregate crushing plant.

WGN080368: Stream piping, structures, disturbance and reclamation - Discretionary Activity (Unrestricted)

[26777] Land use consent to undertake works in the beds of:

- Mill Creek and its tributaries;
- Ohariu Stream and its tributaries;
- Tributaries of Porirua Stream; and
- Streams within the Hawkins Gully Catchment.

including:

- the construction and use of new culvert pipe structures;
- the extension, modification and use of existing culvert structures;
- the construction and use of inlet and outlet structures;
- the construction and use of erosion and scour protection structures; and
- the reclamation of sections of streambeds with those structures;

including any associated temporary diversion of surface water during construction and the disturbance of, and deposition

on, the beds of those streams.

WGN080368: Reclamation of steams - Discretionary Activity (Unrestricted)

[26848] Land use consent to place subsoil drainage and reclaim sections of the following streams:

- Mill Creek and its tributaries;
- Ohariu Stream and its tributaries;
- Tributaries of Porirua Stream;
- Streams within the Hawkins Gully Catchment; and
- Stream within the Smiths Gully Catchment;

including any associated temporary diversion of surface water during construction and the disturbance of, and deposition on, the beds of those streams.

WGN080368: Diversion of surface water - Discretionary Activity (Unrestricted)

[26780] Water permit to permanently divert the full flow of the Ohariu Stream into a new realigned section of stream channel associated with the upgrade and widening of Boom Rock Road.

WGN080368: Concrete batching plant - Discretionary Activity (Unrestricted)

[26781] Discharge permit to discharge contaminants to air associated with the pneumatic conveying of bulk materials from the operation of a concrete batching plant.

The applications include an assessment of environmental effects and assessments by technical experts. The applications and all supporting documentation (including assessments of environmental effects) can be inspected during normal business hours at the: the City Service Centre, Ground Floor, Wellington City Council Offices, Wakefield Street; Environment Help Desk, Level 3, The Regional Council Centre, 142 – 146 Wakefield Street; the Wellington Public Library, 65 Victoria Street; and Johnsonville Library, 5 Broderick Road, Johnsonville; the Environment and Regulatory Services Customer Counter, 1st Floor, Porirua City Council; or on www.meridianenergy.co.nz.

Any person may make a submission on the applications. You may do so by sending a written submission to the Local Area Planning Team, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington in respect of the consents sought from WCC; the Resource Consents Centre, Porirua City Council, P O Box 50218, Porirua City in respect of the consent sought from PCC; and to Greater Wellington Regional Council PO Box 11646, Wellington in respect of the consents sought from GW. You must also send a copy of your submission(s) to the applicant at their address for service above as soon as reasonably practicable after sending your submission(s) to the Council(s).

Submissions must be dated, signed by you and generally follow the Form 13 submission form. The submission(s) must include your full contact details, the reasons for your submission(s), whether you support or oppose the applications or are neutral, the decision you would like the consent authority to make, and whether you wish to speak to your submission(s) at a Council hearing. An indication of the amount of time your oral submission is likely to take would also be appreciated.

Please note that your submission may become publicly available if a request for it is made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. If you are making a submission as an individual, the Councils will consider removing your personal details if you so request in your submission.

The closing date for submissions has been doubled under section 37 of the Resource Management Act 1991. **The closing date for submissions is 4.00pm on Monday 16 June 2008.**

If you have any questions about the application or the submission process, you may contact the Wellington City Council Local Area Planning Team on 801-3590, the Porirua City Council Resource Consents Team on 237-5089, or the Greater Wellington Environment Helpdesk on 384-5708.

Date of notification: 17 April 2008
