



Report 08.553
Date 31 July 2008
File PK/11/01/03

Committee Council
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Greater Wellington Regional Council submission to alternative designation proposal for Transmission Gully

1. Purpose

To seek approval from Council of the draft submission to Transit New Zealand on an alternative alignment for the Transmission Gully designation, as it affects Greater Wellington Regional Council managed lands.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2002*.

3. Background

The current Transmission Gully designation runs through two regional parks - Battle Hill Farm Forest Park and Belmont Regional Park. A new alignment has been recently proposed by Transit New Zealand. At this point Transit New Zealand is requesting feedback from landowners as to how the new alignment may affect their property. The change has some implications for farming operations and recreational use in these two parks, while some ecological impacts need to be considered in Belmont Regional Park. The issues are outlined in the attached submission to Transit New Zealand. Officers are in discussions with Transit New Zealand regarding these issues. However, Transit New Zealand wrote to us as an affected landowner seeking a submission, hence this formal process.

4. Comment

The change in the Transmission Gully route will have impacts on the farming operations in both parks. In Battle Hill Farm Forest Park around 30 hectares of farmland will be lost, which will affect the viability of the farming operation. In Belmont Regional Park the new alignment will sever the main farming road between Takapu and Waitangirua.

Recreational use of these parks will be affected by the loss of parkland in the case of Battle Hill Farm Forest Park and the loss of recreational access from Takapu in Belmont Regional Park. There are also some ecological considerations in the latter park, where the newly proposed alignment will affect vegetation in the upper Cannons Creek catchment.

5. Communication

There are no communication opportunities arising from this report.

6. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Approves the draft submission to Transit New Zealand.***

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

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Murray Waititi
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Attachment

- 1 Draft submission