



TRANSPOWER

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11 June 2026

Taupō District Council
Plan Change 48 – Designations

Delivered via email to: districtplan@taupo.govt.nz

Dear Sir/Madam,

For the Attention of the Independent Hearing Panel – Plan Change 48 – Designations

Hearing Statement by Transpower New Zealand Ltd (As Requiring Authority and Submitter)

Transpower New Zealand Limited (“Transpower”) writes in relation to Proposed Plan Change 48 – Designations (“PC48”).

Transpower as Requiring Authority

Transpower is a Requiring Authority and, as outlined in the s42A Report, gave notice to the Council of the rollover with modification of its eleven designations within the Taupō District Plan.

Transpower lodged an original submission seeking corrections or modifications to the designations as notified, including to the planning maps, to reflect that sought in its rollover notice. A further submission was also lodged in support of an original submission point from NZTA on Transpower’s designation TPR10.

Transpower has engaged with Contact Energy Ltd (“Contact”) in relation to its further submission on Transpower’s designations TPR07, TPR10 and TPR11, and as detailed later in this statement, the amendments sought/concerns raised have been addressed.

As noted above, Transpower lodged a further submission in support of the relief sought in the NZTA submission point OS8.1 to amend TPR10 ‘Designation Hierarchy’ section from ‘Primary’ to ‘Varies’ to reflect the relationship between the overlapping designations. As such this matter is also resolved.

Response to the Section 42A Report Recommendations

To assist the panel and council, the following section responds to the s42A Report recommendations on Transpower’s designations. Appreciating the number and nature of changes to the Transpower designations, the eleven Transpower designations are addressed in turn in the Table attached as Table A. Transpower can confirm it supports the s 42A Report recommendations, but recommends further very confined amendments to give effect to the rollover notice.

Hearing appearance

Given the favourable officer recommendations and that matters with Contact and NZTA have been resolved, Transpower does not intend to appear before the panel and provide evidence at this hearing. Rather, it respectfully requests that this statement be tabled for the Panel's consideration, to confirm its position in relation to its submission points and the Section 42A Report recommendations.

Should the Panel see benefit in Transpower appearing before the Panel in relation to this tabled statement, Transpower can readily make itself available.

Should the Panel require clarification on any matter, please contact Daniel Hamilton at Transpower on the following email: environment.policy@transpower.co.nz.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Hamilton', written in a cursive style.

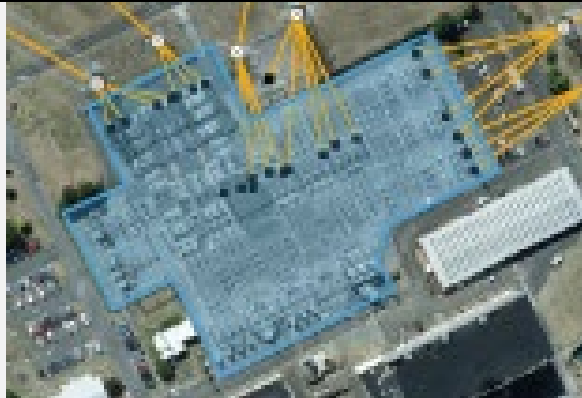
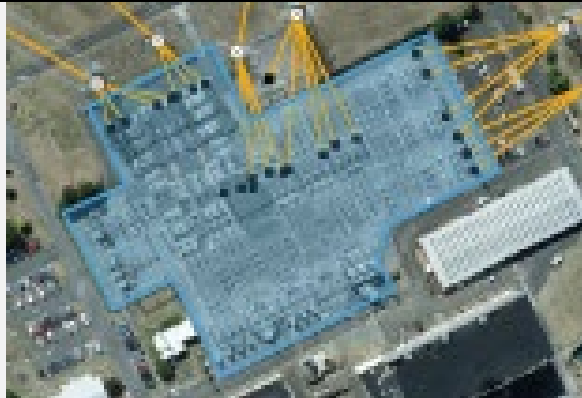
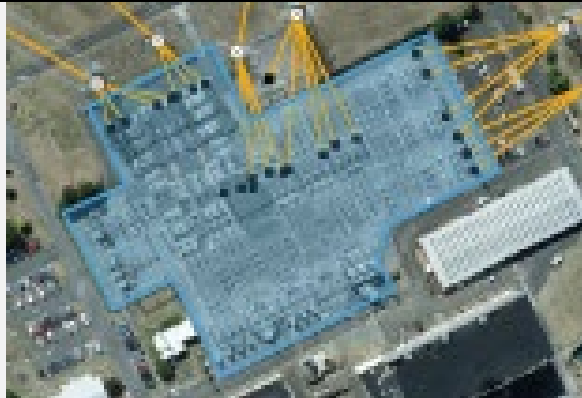
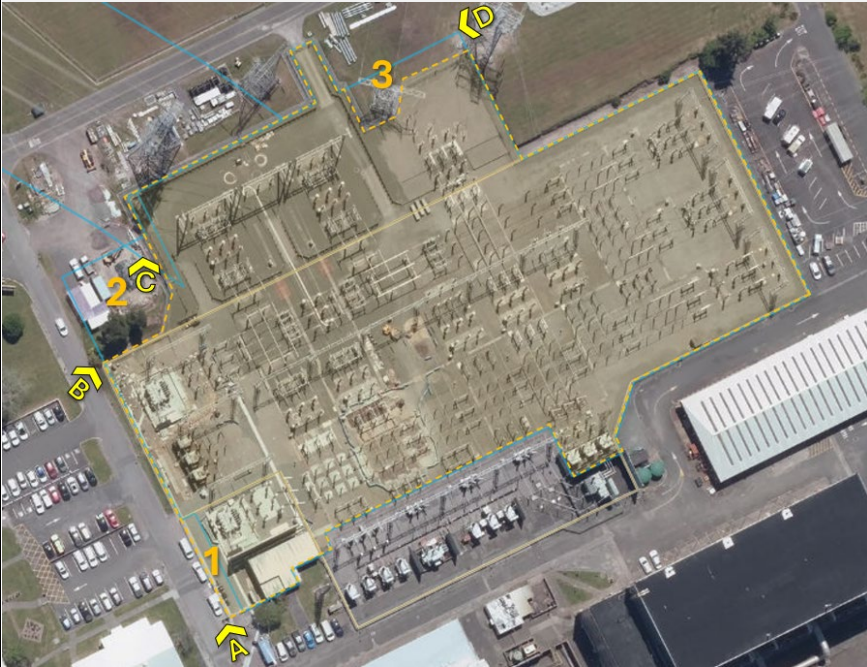
Daniel Hamilton

Strategic Planning Lead

TRANSPOWER NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

Table A

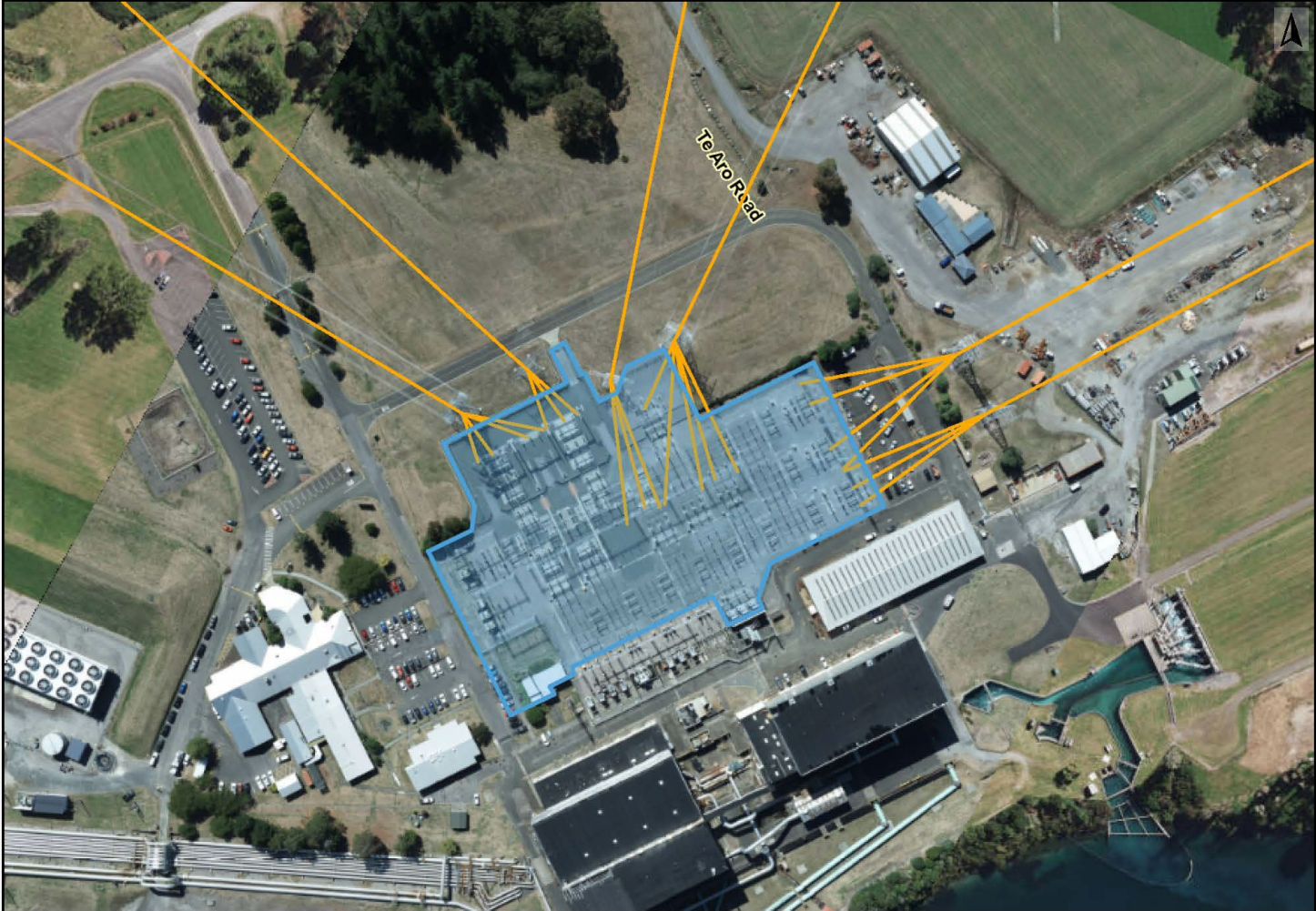
Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	s42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation
TPR01 - Aratiatia Electricity Outdoor Switch Yard	- Minor amendment to the designation purpose	Amendment to that notified in PC48 to reflect that outlined in Transpower’s rollover notice dated 29 January 2025 and updated in its letter of 18 February 2026, as follows:	7.90 I consider the submission from Transpower on TPR01, TPR02, and TPR09 to be appropriate, and to improve the accuracy of the designations for which they are responsible with no material effect on the environment arising from same.	Accept the recommendation in part. The details as shown in Appendix A of the s42A Report are largely supported. However, an amendment is sought (shown as red text) to the site identifier to reflect that sought in the Transpower rollover notice as follows: <u>Part of: Section 1 Survey Office Plan 59582 Block XI, and Lot 2 Deposited Plan South Auckland 83982</u>
	- Amendment to the site identifier	- Amendment to the site identifier		There are no applicable conditions.
	- Amendment to the mapping	- Amendment to the mapping of TPR01	7.91 I therefore recommend the Panel recommends that the modifications sought by Transpower in their written notice and their submission be confirmed.	The supported mapping is as follows (noting this does not reflect that shown on the online planning maps, instead reflects that sought in the Transpower rollover notice):

Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	s42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation								
TPR07 Wairakei Electricity Outdoor Switchyard	- Minor amendment to the designation purpose - Amendment to the site identifier - Amendment to the district plan mapping	Amendment to that notified in PC48 to reflect that outlined in Transpower’s rollover notice, as follows: - Amendment to the district plan mapping of TPR07	7.94 A further submission was also received on TPR07 and TPR10, seeking the original submission points relating to these designations be allowed only in part and suggesting the spatial extent of the designation be reconsidered to account for a License to Occupy between Contact and Transpower, and an area of transmission line over a Contact site. 7.95 As Transpower is the required authority responsible for the designation - affecting existing operational infrastructure – I recommend their submission to modify the spatial extent of TPR07 and TPR10 be confirmed, and the further submission from Contact be rejected. 7.96 Notwithstanding, I understand that Transpower and Contact are in correspondence to resolve the matter and I would support further modification to the identified designation boundaries to reflect operational infrastructure more accurately if presented to the Panel through further evidence.	Support the recommendation. The details as shown in Appendix A of the s42A Report are supported, noting a further amendment is sought to the site identifier to include reference to Section 20 SO 438784 (thereby reflecting the area in the map below). There are no applicable conditions. Transpower has been in discussion with Contact Energy Ltd (Contact) regarding its further submission¹ and Transpower has confirmed with Contact the extent of the designation. The revised sought designation largely reflects that identified in the operative Taupo District Plan, with three minor amendments. These reflect recent upgrade works undertaken by Transpower on the site. Two of the areas (areas 2 and 3) are a reduction in the footprint of the operative designation, and area 1 is a minor extension to follow a fenceline. The figures below show the various iterations of the designation outline.								
				<table><tr><td>Figure 1. Operative District Plan</td><td>Figure 2. Transpower Notice and Submission</td><td>Figure 3. Sought Refined Designation outline</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			Figure 1. Operative District Plan	Figure 2. Transpower Notice and Submission	Figure 3. Sought Refined Designation outline			
				Figure 1. Operative District Plan	Figure 2. Transpower Notice and Submission	Figure 3. Sought Refined Designation outline						
												
The three refinements from Figure 1 and Figure 3 are shown in the figure below and detailed in the following table:  <table><tr><th>Area</th><th>Photo Location</th><th>Comment</th></tr></table>			Area	Photo Location	Comment							
Area	Photo Location	Comment										

¹ Contact would support with amendments as the area identified in the ‘updated’ designation does not reflect a licence to occupy (LTO) between Transpower and Contact for the Wairakei switchyard. The proposed area also does not accommodate recent upgrade works, requiring extension, to the switchyard. These areas were subject to the LTO and Transpower may wish to amend designation boundary to incorporate these works/assets as well as some existing assets which have been omitted from the ‘updated’ designation. The designation should also be amended to exclude Contact transmission assets (as agreed previously with Transpower). See Figure 1 below.

Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	S42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation			
				1			Fence on one alignment – can extend designation boundary out (to east). Reflect recent upgrade works by Transpower
				2			Area to left (photo)/north longer required for bunding purposes. Reduce designation to align with fence

Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	S42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation		
						Designation to align with fence
				3		Pull designation boundary in to align with fence.
				Based on the above I consider the concerns of Contact are addressed. The supported mapping (reflecting the above) is as follows: (A larger scale version of the updated map is attached as Appendix A)		

Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	s42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation
				 TRANSPOWER TPR07 Wairakei Outdoor Switchyard  050100 m 2-Jun-2026 Scale 1: 2257 Plan size: A4L Copyright: Transpower New Zealand Limited and licensors. All rights reserved. If you have received this document from Transpower you must use it only for the purpose Transpower provided it to you. If you have received this document from someone other than Transpower, you must not use the document and must destroy it or return it to Transpower. Legend Maximo Assets Span 220 kV Designation

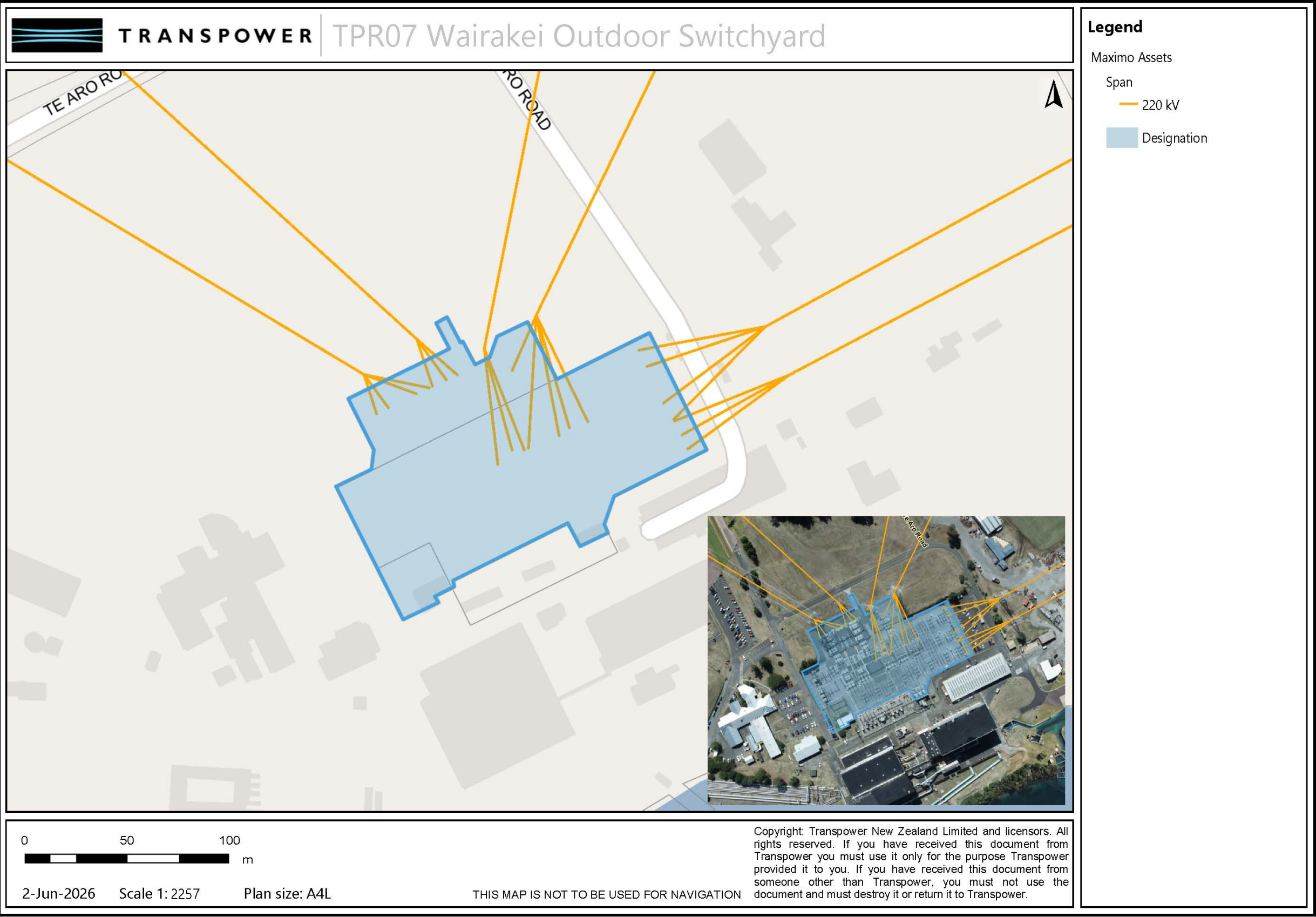
Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	s42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation
	of the designation and construction of the original National Grid asset and are no longer relevant), and minor amendments to conditions 9, 40 – 42 and 44 (to reflect updated condition numbers and a change to condition 9 to reflect updated versions of the guidelines).		updated references to relevant guidelines were also sought. Similar modifications were requested for conditions attached to TPR10. No submissions were received on the modifications to conditions sought, and I do not consider they materially affect the designation. They have therefore been amended in Appendix B and I recommend these be confirmed. 7.91 I therefore recommend the Panel recommends that the modifications sought by Transpower in their written notice and their submission be confirmed.	suitably qualified and experienced person. The plan shall set out the management procedures in terms of section 8 and Annex E of NZS6803:1999 and the works shall be undertaken in accordance with that noise management plan.” - Amendment to condition 20 (formerly condition 42) to cross reference to condition 19, not condition 41. - Amendment to condition 22 (formerly condition 44) to cross reference to condition 22, not condition 44. Transpower has been in discussion with Contact regarding its further submission² and the refinements to TPR08 address Contacts concerns. The supported mapping is as follows (noting this reflects that shown in the online district plan planning maps): The map, titled 'TPR08 WKM North and WKM South Substation', shows a network of transmission lines (220 kV in orange and 400 kV in pink) connecting to the substation area. Key roads include WAKAMARU ROAD, THOI ROAD, POKURU ROAD NORTH, and ONGAROTO ROAD. A legend on the right defines 'Maximo Assets' (Span) and 'Transpower Data' (Transpower Designation). A scale bar at the bottom left indicates 0 to 1 km. A copyright notice at the bottom right states: 'Copyright: Transpower New Zealand Limited and licensors. All rights reserved. If you have received this document from Transpower you must use it only for the purpose Transpower provided it to you. If you have received this document from someone other than Transpower, you must not use the document and must destroy it or return it to Transpower.'

² Contact would support with amendments related to the area that the transmission line crosses over Contact’s Wairākei Power Station site.

Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	s42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation
TPR09 Whakamaru to Brownhill Electricity Transmission Line	- Amendment to the designation purpose - Amendment to the site identifier - Amendment to delete conditions 6, 7, 8 and 17-35 (as they relate to the confirmation of the designation and construction of the original National Grid asset and are no longer relevant), and minor amendments to conditions 9, 40 – 42 and 44 (to reflect updated condition numbers and a change to condition 9 to reflect updated versions of the guidelines).	Amendment to that notified in PC48 to reflect that outlined in Transpower’s rollover notice, as follows: - Amendment to the Conditions - Amendmenet to remove the legal description ‘Lake Maraetai’ (as it does not accurately detail the location of the designation).	<i>7.90 I consider the submission from Transpower on TPR01, TPR02, and TPR09 to be appropriate, and to improve the accuracy of the designations for which they are responsible with no material effect on the environment arising from same.</i> <i>7.91 I therefore recommend the Panel recommends that the modifications sought by Transpower in their written notice and their submission be confirmed.</i>	Support the recommendation. The details as shown in Appendix A of the s42A Report are supported. The conditions as shown in Appendix B of the s42A Report are largely supported, noting the following amendments are required (shown as red text) to reflect that sought in the rollover notice: - Amendment to condition 6 (formerly condition 9) as follows: “The works shall be designed and constructed to limit the EMF exposure to the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection Guidelines for limiting exposure to time varying electric, magnetic, and electromagnetic fields (up to 300 GHz) (Health Physics, 1998 74(4): 494– 552) or revisions thereof (ICNIRP Guidelines) public reference levels of 5 kV/m for electric fields and 100 µT for magnetic flux density at one metre above ground under maximum normal operating conditions (i.e. when there are no faults in the transmission system)” - Amendment to condition 18 (formerly condition 40) to cross reference to condition 17, not condition 39. - Amendment to condition 19 (formerly condition 41) as follows: “Prior to any significant construction work taking place, including any earthworks, a noise management plan applicable to the construction and commissioning stages shall be prepared for the whole construction portion of the line, with the assistance of a suitably qualified and experienced person. The plan shall set out the management procedures in terms of section 8 and Annex E of NZS6803:1999 and the works shall be undertaken in accordance with that noise management plan.” - Amendment to condition 20 (formerly condition 42) to cross reference to condition 19, not condition 41. - Amendment to condition 22 (formerly condition 44) to cross reference to condition 22, not condition 44. The supported mapping is as follows (noting this reflects that shown in the online district plan planning maps):

Designation	Rollover (with modification) notice	Submission Relief	s42A Recommendation	Transpower Response to the s42A Recommendation
				TPR09 BHL-WKM Overhead Transmission Line Legend Maximo Assets Span 220 kV 400 kV Transpower Data Transpower Designation 0 300 600 m 22-May-2026 Scale 1:9028 Plan size: A4L THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION Copyright: Transpower New Zealand Limited and licensors. All rights reserved. If you have received this document from Transpower you must use it only for the purpose Transpower provided it to you. If you have received this document from someone other than Transpower, you must not use the document and must destroy it or return it to Transpower.
TPR10 Wairakei to Whakamaru C Line (WRK-WKM C Line) Electricity Transmission Line	- Minor amendment to the designation purpose - Amendment to the site identifier - Amendment to delete conditions 10 – 17 (as they are original construction conditions), and	Amendment to that notified in PC48 to reflect that outlined in Transpower’s rollover notice, as follows: - Amendment to the Conditions - Amendment to the site identifier to remove reference to ‘Pt Sec 19 Blk XV Whakamaru SD’, to reflect that in	7.92 One submission was received from NZTA on TPR11, seeking the designation hierarchy be updated from ‘primary’ to ‘varies’. This reflects the fact that the designation crosses State Highway infrastructure, for which NZTA is the primary designation holder. 7.93 A further	Support the recommendation. The details as shown in Appendix A of the s42A Report are largely supported. However, an amendment is sought (shown as red text) to the Designation Hierarchy section to amend it from ‘Primary’ to ‘Varies’ to reflect the relief sought in the NZTA submission point OS8.1 and supported by Transpower in its further submission. Transpower has been in discussion with Contact Energy Ltd (Contact) regarding its further submission and Transpower understands (and confirmed by Contact) there are no outstanding issues. The conditions as shown in Appendix B of the s42A Report are largely supported, noting the following amendments are required (shown as red text) to reflect that sought in the rollover notice and provide correct cross referencing: Amendment to condition 5 as follows: “The works shall be designed and constructed to limit the EMF exposure to the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection Guidelines for limiting exposure to time varying electric, magnetic, and electromagnetic fields (up to 300 GHz) (Health Physics, 1998 74(4): 494–552) or revisions thereof (ICNIRP Guidelines) public reference levels of 5 kV/m for electric fields and 100 µT for magnetic flux density at one metre above ground under maximum normal operating conditions (i.e. when there are no faults in the transmission system)”

Appendix A - Wairakei TPR07 – Updated mapping





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TPR07 Wairakei Outdoor Switchyard

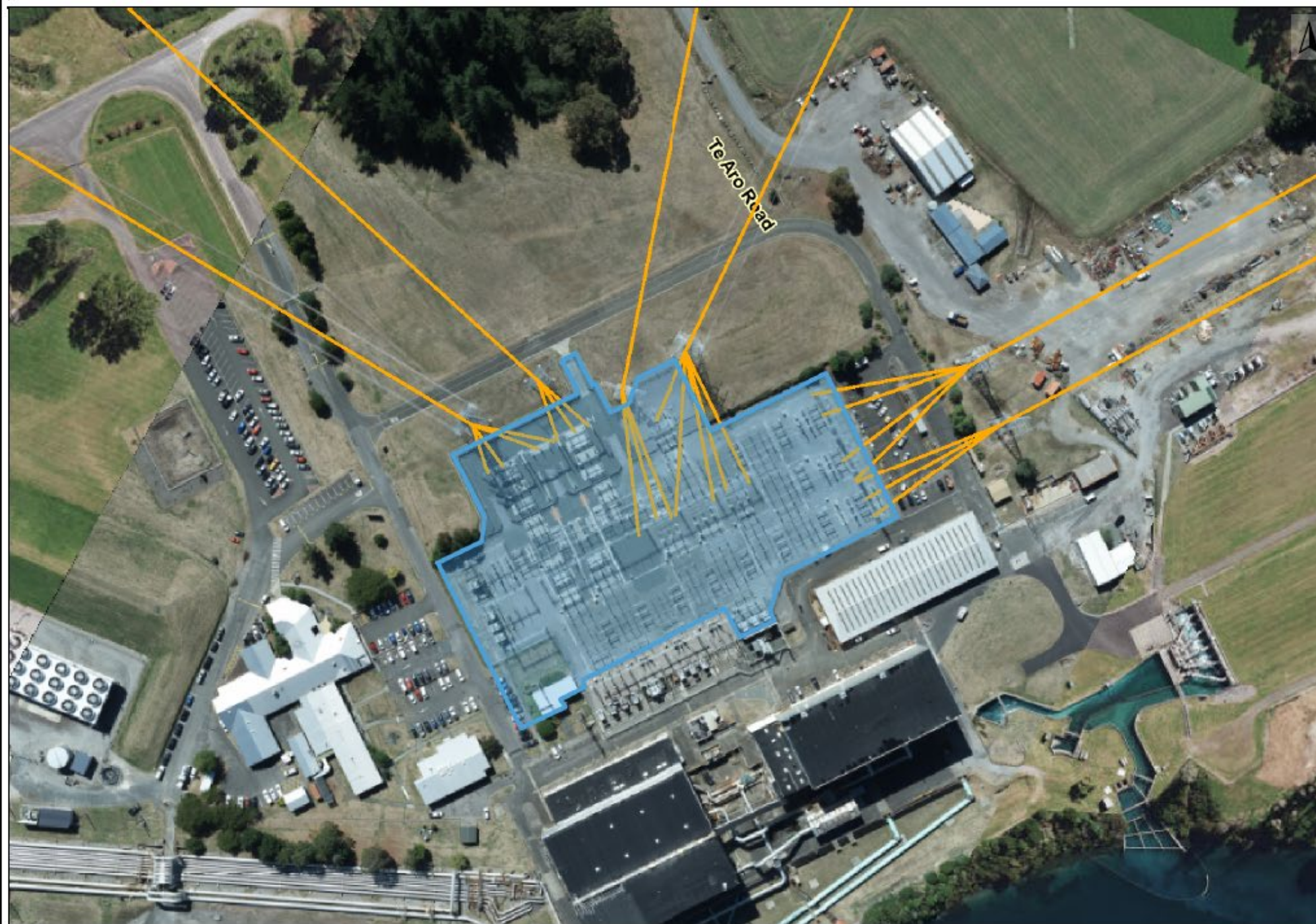
Legend

Maximo Assets

Span

— 220 kV

■ Designation



0 50 100
m

2-Jun-2026 Scale 1:2257 Plan size: A4L

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

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