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GEOTHERMAL  
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**New Zealand Geothermal Association Submission on the Transmission National Policy Statement and National Environmental Standards**

The New Zealand Geothermal Association would like to thank the Reference Group on Electricity Transmission for the opportunity to comment on concepts being developed around a possible National Policy Statement on (or National Environmental Standards in relation to) transmission.

In this case, the Association's interest is peripheral so we will leave detailed comments to those more directly involved.

We would, however, like to highlight the fact that many renewable and low carbon emitting energy resources, including geothermal energy, are remote from the major loads. As such, adequate transmission is a consideration in assessing the viability of these projects. Transmission constraints between the Central North Island (where most of New Zealand's high temperature geothermal fields are located) and Auckland are of particular concern. As a consequence, the New Zealand Geothermal Association is supportive of efforts to assist the ongoing development or maintenance of the national transmission network within the framework provided by the Resource Management Act.

Yours faithfully

Brian White  
Executive Officer  
New Zealand Geothermal Association