



Submission by Genesis Energy Limited

Trading as Genesis

---

ON

---

Mackenzie District Plan Review – Stage 3

Proposed Plan Change 25

Rural Lifestyle Zone

26 January 2024

## Submission by Genesis Energy Limited

Trading as Genesis

ON

### Mackenzie District Plan Review – Stage 3 Proposed Plan Change 25 Rural Lifestyle Zone

---

To: Mackenzie District Council

53 Main Street  
Fairlie 7925

Date: 26 January 2024

Name: Genesis Energy Limited

Contact: Alice Barnett

Environmental Policy and Planning Manager

Genesis Energy Limited  
Level 6, 155 Fanshawe Street  
PO Box 90477  
Victoria Street West  
Auckland 1142

Phone: 021 799 233

E-mail [Alice.Barnett@genesisenergy.co.nz](mailto:Alice.Barnett@genesisenergy.co.nz)

Address for  
Service: As above

## 1. Introduction

---

Genesis Energy Limited (**Genesis**) welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Proposed Plan Change 25 (**PC25**) relating to the Rural Lifestyle Zone Chapter in the Mackenzie District Plan.

Genesis is one of Aotearoa's largest electricity generator and energy retailer with a diverse portfolio of electricity generation assets. The electricity generation profile comprises a range of energy sources, including thermal and renewable energy sources from hydro, wind, and soon, solar.

In the Mackenzie district, Genesis owns and operates the Tekapo Power Scheme (**TekPS**, the **scheme**), which is a part of the nationally significant Waitaki Power Scheme.

In 2024, Genesis, with its joint venture partner FRV Australia, will commence construction of its first solar farm, which is located in the Canterbury region. As part of the Gen35 strategy reset, Genesis will use profits from the Kupe gas field to support a \$1.1 billion programme to build new renewable generation and grid scale battery storage between now and 2030. The investment into solar, grid scale battery storage and wind will help grow Genesis' renewable portfolio to around 8,300 GWh, representing a 160% increase on Genesis' current 3,200 GWh of renewable generation. The Gen35 strategy reset recognizes our role to support electrification of the New Zealand economy, and towards achieving net-zero 2050.

**Section 2** of the submission outlines Genesis' specific submission points, reasons for submission, and the relief sought.

The focus of the specific submission points is to ensure the development, operation, maintenance and upgrade of the existing nationally significant Tekapo Power Scheme (and more broadly the Waitaki Power Scheme) and new renewable electricity generation assets are appropriately enabled within the Mackenzie district. The submissions are made to reflect national direction (such as the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation) and assist the district (and New Zealand's) transition to a low-carbon future.

Genesis wishes to be heard in support of this submission. If others make a similar submission, Genesis would be prepared to consider presenting a joint case with them at any hearing.

Genesis does not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

Nāku noa, nā



Karen Sky

**Group Manager Environment and Community**

## 2. Genesis Energy Limited – specific submission points on Plan Change 25 (Rural Lifestyle Zone Chapter)

| Sub Point          | Provision Number | Position | Reasons for submission   | Relief sought  |
|--------------------|------------------|----------|--|--|
| <b>Definitions</b> |                  |          |  |  |
| 1.                 | Earthworks       | Support  | The definition of “ <i>earthworks</i> ” is supported   | Retain the definition of “ <i>earthworks</i> ” as notified.  |
| 2.                 | Functional Need  | Support  | The definition of “ <i>functional need</i> ” is supported  | Retain the definition of “ <i>functional need</i> ” as notified.   |
| 3.                 | Infrastructure   | Oppose   | <p>Infrastructure is included in the list of definitions associated with PC25, however is not marked as being subject to a plan change.</p> <p>“<i>Infrastructure</i>” is included in the list of definitions associated with PC25, however is not marked as being subject to a plan change.</p> <p>Infrastructure is defined as having the same meaning as in section 2 of the RMA which includes “<i>facilities for the generation of electricity, lines used or intended to be used to convey electricity, and support structures for lines used or intended to be used to convey electricity</i>”. While Genesis consider it is appropriate that the RMA definition of infrastructure forms the basis of the definition, the definition should be extended to include energy storage systems, recognising the role that such systems are likely to play in future electricity systems.</p> | <p>Amend the definition of “<i>infrastructure</i>” as follows:</p> <p><i>Has the same meaning as in section 2 of the RMA, <u>with an added reference to energy storage</u>, (as set out below)</i></p> <p><i>Means –</i></p> <p>...</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(d) <i>facilities for the generation of electricity, <u>energy storage</u>, lines used or intended to be used to convey electricity, and support structures for lines used or intended to be used to convey electricity, excluding facilities, lines, and support structures if a person –</i></p> <p class="list-item-l2">a. <i>uses them in connection with the generation of electricity for the person’s use; and</i></p> <p class="list-item-l2">b. <i>does not use them to generate any electricity for supply to any other person:</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>Alternatively, if the definition of Infrastructure is not amended, then all provisions in all of PC23, PC24, PC25, PC26 and PC27 that refer to “<i>Infrastructure</i>” should be amended to refer to “<i>Infrastructure <u>and energy storage facilities</u></i>”.</p> |

| Sub Point                                 | Provision Number | Position       | Reasons for submission   | Relief sought   |
|---|------------------|----------------|--|---|
| 4.  | Operational need | Support        | <p>Genesis notes that the definition of "<i>Operational need</i>" is currently limited to the residential, commercial and mixed use and general industrial zones and Plan Changes 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 propose to extend the application of the term to those chapters introduced through plan changes 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, where the terms are used in those chapters.</p> <p>On this basis, the definition of "<i>operational need</i>" is supported and should be applied throughout the plan.</p> | Retain the definition of " <i>operational need</i> " as notified and apply it throughout the plan.  |
| <b>RLZ – Rural Lifestyle Zone Chapter</b> |                  |                |  |   |
| 5.  | Introduction     | Oppose in part | Genesis generally support the RLZ- introduction; however, consider clarification that REG activities are managed under the REG chapter of the plan is also necessary within the RLZ chapter introduction.  | <p>Amend the Introduction by adding the following paragraph:</p> <p>...</p> <p><i>As well as the provisions in this chapter, district-wide chapter provisions will also apply where relevant.</i></p> <p><u><i>The provisions of this chapter do not apply to renewable electricity generation activities which are managed under the Renewable Electricity Generation Chapter.</i></u></p> |
| 6.  | New Policy       | New Policy     | Gensis consider that a reverse sensitivity policy similar to that included in the General Rural Zone is necessary in the Rural Lifestyle Zone relative to existing Renewable Electricity Generation Activities.  | <p>Insert new Policy as follows:</p> <p><b><u>RLZ-PX – Reverse Sensitivity</u></b></p> <p><u><i>Avoid reverse sensitivity effects on existing renewable electricity generation activities.</i></u></p>  |