



17 September 2018

Mayor K Gurnathan and Councillors
Kapiti Coast District Council
Paraparaumu

Subject: Informing Council about the Paekakariki wind power initiative

Residents of Paekakariki, under the auspices of the Paekakariki Community Trust, have commenced a wind-power initiative in response to present and past governments exhortations for considered and effective responses at community level to global climate change and moves towards a zero-carbon future. Similarly, it is responding to KCDC policy initiatives for reduced carbon initiatives and transition town aspirations. The Trust's actions arise from its core objective "to support the economic, social and environmental sustainability of Paekakariki"

The Trust has

Assessed the technical and economic feasibility of electricity being generated from wind blowing over hills above Paekakariki village sufficient to power all village homes, businesses, and the commuter trains, and (potentially) to supply energy to the nearby Kapiti Coast community.

It advises.....

- Paekakariki hill provides a physically and environmentally suitable site for a *community-scale* wind farm, and planning requirements and environmental standards prescribed under the Kapiti Coast District Plan are all likely to be met.
- The wind resource is the equal of that powering large commercial wind farms elsewhere in North Island. Three 900kw turbines (identical to that now on Brooklyn Hill, Wellington) can provide 9.2 Gwh of electricity annually - 1.5 x the electricity consumption of the village and passing trains; 5 such turbines (the maximum allowed under KCDC district plan) would generate 15.4 Gwh, approx. 14% of the total electricity supplied within the Electra network and sufficient to power 1925 homes.
- Power could be generated economically i.e. at, or below, the present 5-year future wholesale contract price, and can do so for the 25-year life of the windfarm. Depending on necessary commercial arrangements, power could be delivered to Paekakariki village residents considerably cheaper than presently, and at a stable price for multi-year periods.
(see <http://paekakariki.nz/t/wind-power-presentation/26> for detail and video of site)

Most recently it

- Consulted its community via mainstream and social media, and public meetings, to gauge the level of support for a community-owned wind farm development to be pursued. Written responses were overwhelmingly enthusiastic. This encouraged the Trust to proceed with business case preparation, assembling material for a resource consent application, make its intent known to potential investors, and further consult with NZTA to secure a long-term occupancy lease over the turbine sites on its land adjacent to the Transmission Gully route.

It seeks.....

- Council support for this community power initiative, and political advocacy for it.
- Consideration for this community infrastructure project to be included as part of regional development assistance funding initiatives sponsored by KCDC.

I, and my colleague Murray Williams, will brief you on other matters related to this project, and respond to your questions.

Graham Coe
Chair, Paekakariki Community Trust