Response No: 6

Submission 06 - Centralines

Q1 Short Text

Full Name:

Stuart Smith

Q2 Short Text

Company/Organisation (if applicable)

Centralines Limited

Q3 Short Text

Contact Person (if different)

Christina Bunny- Cheal Consultants

Q4 Email

Email Address

[redacted]

Q5 Short Text

Address

Q6 Telephone

Mobile Phone

[redacted]

Q7 Telephone

Home Phone

[redacted]

Q8 Select Box

3. Could you gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission (Please tick relevant box) I

could not

Q9 Select Box

4. Are you directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:

I am not

Q10 Select Box

5. Do you wish to be heard in support of my submission in person (Please tick relevant box)

I wish

Q11 Select Box

6. Will you consider presenting a joint case with other submitters, who make a similar submission, at a hearing. (Please tick relevant box)

I will

Q12 Select Box

7. Do you wish to present your submission via Zoom?

No

Q13 Select Box

Do you:

Amend

Q14 Long Text

What specific parts of the proposed changes does my submission relate to? (please reference the specific section or words and attach more pages if required)

Q15 Long Text

What decision are you seeking from Council? (clearly indicate whether you support of oppose the specific provisions or wish to have amendments made, giving reasons).

SOCIALPOINT BY OPEN POINT

Q16 **Please note: All submissions will be treated as public documents and will be made available on Council's website. However, you may request that your contact details (but not your name) be withheld. If you want your contact details withheld, please let us know by ticking this box**

Single Checkbox

Yes

Q17 **Upload additional documentation here**

File Upload

https://letstalkchb.co.nz/download_file/670

Q18 **Do you:**

Select Box

Support

Q19 **What specific parts of the proposed changes does my submission relate to? (please reference the specific section or words and attach more pages if required)**

Long Text

Q20 **What decision are you seeking from Council? (clearly indicate whether you support of oppose the specific provisions or wish to have amendments made, giving reasons).**

Long Text

Q21 **Please note: All submissions will be treated as public documents and will be made available on Council's website. However, you may request that your contact details (but not your name) be withheld. If you want your contact details withheld, please let us know by ticking this box**

Single Checkbox

Yes

Q22 **Upload additional documentation here**

File Upload

https://letstalkchb.co.nz/download_file/671

applied innovation

cheal

OUR REF 260236L1

8 April 2026

Central Hawkes Bay District Council
PO Box 127
WAIPAWA 4240

ATTENTION: CENTRAL HAWKES BAY DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW TEAM Email: districtplan@chbdc.govt.nz

This submission is:

- **in support of Plan Change 1 – Waipukurau South Development Area with requested amendments**
- **in support of Plan Change 1 – Renewable Energy Chapter**

CENTRAL HAWKES BAY DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW – PLAN CHANGE 1 – WAIPUKURAU SOUTH DEVELOPMENT AREA

This submission has been prepared on behalf of the Centralines Limited, Central Hawkes Bays local electricity distribution network company. This submission generally supports Plan Change 1 - Waipukurau South Development Area, however, also seeks the following consideration by Council/amendments.

Electricity Infrastructure is a key component to successful residential expansion and growth. Although the Plan Change Objectives, Policies and Assessment criteria refer to infrastructure, this is generally referenced within the Proposed Plan Change, about roading and three waters infrastructure, with limited reference to electricity distribution networks.

Centralines requests that future electricity network growth and expansion be considered at a corridor level. This will help ensure the efficient development of the network and allow it to be appropriately considered in decision-making processes. It will also help avoid adverse effects on the delivery of electricity infrastructure that could arise from ad-hoc development occurring through separate resource consent processes over time.

In addition, suggested Changes are requested to the following provisions within the DEV Chapter.

DEV Chapter:

- **Insert Policy under DEV1-P2**; reference to the electricity distribution network in addition to other infrastructure already referred to ie

  *a) It can be connected to publicly available water, wastewater, ~~and~~ stormwater **and electricity** networks with sufficient capacity to service the proposed development or;*

Submission point 06.01

Or it may be more appropriate to add DEV1-P9; *promote integration of the electricity network…*

- **Insert consideration to the wider electricity network into the Assessment Criteria in the DEV chapter**. We propose this also should include consideration of the electricity distribution network and the reverse sensitivity effects that could occur due to the requirement for corridor level infrastructure, i.e.

Submission point 06.02

  - *Be clear that electricity networks are considered under DEV1-01 and therefore Assessment Criteria DEV1-AM1 would ensure the above is considered in decision making processes, and/or:*
  - *Be clear throughout that 'infrastructure' or 'planned infrastructure' references include electricity infrastructure, and/or:*
  - *Include a potential corridor illustrated on the Proposed Structure Plan (in consultation with Centralines and interested parties), then the assessment criteria would include this consideration under DEV1-AM1, and/or:*
  - *Any other method Council consider appropriate that would ensure the wider electricity network and serviceably is a consideration that must be addressed as part of decision-making processes.*

Having regard to the above, further aligns the Proposed Plan Change with the recently amended National Policy Statement for Infrastructure 2025 (NPS-I) and National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks (NPS-EN). These amended national direction documents came into effect on 15 January 2026 and include national consideration for electricity distribution networks in addition to the transmission network (Transpower networks). The entirety of these National Policy Statements is applicable, with particular importance given to Policies 2, 3, 9 and 10 of the NPS-I; and Policy 9, 11 and 13 of the NPS-EN.

These updated NPSs recognise electricity as an essential infrastructure for our communities, economic growth and development in submission planning, and encourages early consultation between Council and utility providers. Including additional direction to strategically consider the wider electricity network within the Structure Plan and Proposed Plan Change assist with further enhancing this direction.

Solution Sought:
This submission supports Plan Change 1 Waipukurau South with the above amendments/consideration requested.

CENTRAL HAWKES BAY DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW – PLAN CHANGE 1 – RENEWABLE ENERGY CHAPTER

This submission has been prepared on behalf of the Centralines Limited, Central Hawkes Bays local electricity distribution company. This submission generally supports the intent of Plan Change 1 – Renewable Energy Chapter. The provisions that enable renewable electricity generation are considered beneficial for the district and the wider community.

Submission point 06.04

Centralines support the change to enable small-scale renewable energy generation that supports on-site use and agree this should be permitted without resource consent where standards are met, as per Proposed Rule RE-R1.

Centralines support a Restricted Discretionary Consent status for Community Scale Renewable Energy Generation Activities (Solar) where located outside of areas that are Outstanding Natural Features or Landscapes, or of high natural character, heritage items and Sites of Significance to Māori (RE-R2). Centralines support a non-complying activity status where renewable electricity generation is located within these areas (RE-R5).

Centralines support the matters of discretion referred to under RE-AM1.

The objectives and policies already throughout the District Plan – Operative in Part (2024) enable appropriate renewable electricity generation, and the change in rules and activity status introduced under Plan Change 1 further supports this direction within the District Plan.

Centralines supports the proposed change to RE-P4 to ensure enabling community scale renewable electricity generation is explicit.

Centralines support the definition changes for both Small-Scale Renewable electivity Generation and Community Scale Regulation.

Submission point 06.03

One matter that Centralines considers important is to clarify that the productivity of the soil resource should not be a factor in assessing renewable energy proposals, particularly given that these are not inappropriate activities to occur on highly productive land, as per Clause 3.9 of the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPS-HPL). Whilst this is not included as a matter of discretion under RE-AM1, making this explicit in the policy framework would provide further clarity for any consent pathways and remove uncertainty during the consent process.

Solution Sought:
This submission supports Plan Change 1 – Renewable Energy Chapter with the above consideration.

Centralines wishes to be heard in support of this submission.

Yours sincerely



CHRISTINA BUNNY
SENIOR PLANNER
Email: christinab@cheal.co.nz