

Notice Under Regulation 17 of the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010

Investigation of alleged breach of the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 by Transpower New Zealand Limited - Grid Owner

On 8 August 2024, the Authority alleged that Transpower New Zealand Limited - Grid Owner had breached Part 12 clause 12.113 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (Code).

On 12 September 2024, the Authority appointed an investigator to investigate the alleged breach under Regulation 12 of the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 (Regulations).

Under Regulation 16, the investigator must promptly notify the industry participant alleged to have breached the Code of the allegation that is being investigated. On 16 September 2024, the investigator gave Transpower New Zealand Limited - Grid Owner such notice.

Under Regulation 17, at the same time as the investigator sends a notice under Regulation 16, the investigator must publicise the information about the matter under investigation, including the content of the notice given under that regulation. This notice publicises the information about the matter under investigation, and a copy of the notice given under Regulation 16 is attached.

Any participant that considers it is affected by the matter being investigated and that wishes to become a party to this investigation, should notify the investigator within 10 working days after the date on which this notice is published (by 5pm, 30 September 2024).

The investigator can be contacted, citing the reference **2408TPNZ2** in the subject line, by email at compliance@ea.govt.nz, or at:

Compliance Investigator
Electricity Authority - Te Mana Hiko
Level 7, AON Centre
1 Willis Street
PO Box 10041
Wellington 6011

NOTICE UNDER REGULATION 16 OF THE ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY (ENFORCEMENT) REGULATIONS 2010

Date	16 September 2024
Addressee	Transpower New Zealand Limited - Grid Owner
Subject	The Authority alleged that the grid owner breached clause 12.113 of the Code in relation to maintenance of a transmission tower.
Investigator	Investigator appointed under Regulation 12 of the Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010 (Regulations)
Notifying industry participant	Electricity Authority
Clauses allegedly breached	Part 12 clause 12.113
Circumstances of alleged breaches	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On 20 June 2024, a transmission tower carrying two 220kV circuits fell, resulting in a power outage in the Northland region. 2. This represented a loss of approximately 158MW of supply, and affected about 88,000 customers. 3. Supply was partially restored after approximately 104 minutes, and fully restored after three days. 4. During foundation maintenance work by Transpower's service provider, the nuts were removed from the bolts on three of the tower's four legs. The removal of the nuts from two of the tower's legs, which were intended to resist tension forces, compromised the stability of the tower, ultimately causing it to collapse.
Date and time of alleged breaches	on 20/06/2024 at 11:03 am
<p>Please note, under Regulation 16 of the Regulations, you are obliged to respond to this allegation, in writing, to the investigator within 10 working days of receipt of this notice (unless the investigator</p>	

allows, in writing, a longer period).

Please provide your response to this allegation, or request a longer period to respond, via the Authority's Compliance portal by clicking [here](#).

Include the following in your response:

- Whether you believe you have breached the Code
- Whether there is another provision you consider more accurately describes the nature of the event
- A full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the alleged breaches
- Identification of any information provided in your response that you consider confidential and that should not be included in the investigator's report under Regulation 19 of the Regulations (Regulation 15(2) of the Regulations). If your response includes confidential information, please provide a second copy where the confidential information has been redacted in case your response needs to be shared with any other parties.