

**Before the Hearing Panel Appointed by Wellington City Council
to Hear Submissions on the Proposed Wellington City District Plan**

HEARING STREAM 1 – STRATEGIC DIRECTION

23 February 2023

Summary of key points to highlight in the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 3 February 2023 (for Meridian Energy Limited)

1. Meridian’s submissions reflect the company’s particular interests in the WCC PDPP:
 - How the PDP provides for and affects Meridian’s existing assets;
 - How the PDP provides for upgrading and enhancing the generation capacity of Meridian’s existing assets; and
 - How the PDP provides generally for new generation and new renewable energy generation technology (including solar).
2. This last point above is of particular interest given the planned transition to a reliance on renewable energy sources advocated by:
 - WCC itself (through the PDP and Te Atakura);
 - GWRC (RPS Proposed Change #1); and
 - The Government (in its emissions and REG targets to give effect to international obligations and respond to climate change).
3. I participated in discussions between Meridian and WCC policy staff during development of the draft PDP and assisted with some drafting suggestions – some of which were adopted in the PDP.
4. Meridian’s submission focuses on the few areas where officers did not take up suggestions made – and most of those are subjects addressed in future hearings (primarily the Infrastructure Hearing Stream) which Meridian representatives will attend to address you directly.
5. I am largely in agreement with the s. 42A reporting officers for Hearing Stream 1.
6. There is one point of difference – and that is really a matter of emphasis: in Objective SCA-O1 where I propose explicit reference be made to the role that renewable electricity generation will play in the transition away from fossil fuels.
7. This is detailed on page 7 of my statement (paragraph ‘6’ – noting that the paragraph numbering should read ‘5.4’ and again on page 12).