## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## KING COUNTRY TRUST PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TRUST DEED

The King Country Trust (**Trust**) is currently governed by a Deed of Trust dated 3 May 2022 (**Deed**). The Trust holds income and capital and must be held by the trustees on the terms of the Trust. The Trust holds approximately 25 percent of shares in King Country Energy Limited (**King Country Energy**).

The trustees have applied to the High Court for directions that the Trustees have the necessary powers to amend the Deed to incorporate the Outstanding Amendments and that it is proper and lawful for the trustees to adopt those amendments.

Any party wishing to oppose the application or appear for an ancillary purpose is required by 19 December 2022 to file and serve a statement of defence or appearance along with evidence (if any) in support.

This is notice to the Consumers of the trustees' application to the High Court and provides details of how Consumers can review relevant documents, obtain further information, provide comments or be heard in relation to the application.

The beneficiaries of the Trust are, in broad terms, persons who are named in the records of the Lines Company Limited (**Lines Company**) as persons whose premises are connected to the Lines Company's lines network within the southern part of the King Country region (**Consumers**).

On 25 March 2022, the Trustees approved a number of amendments to the Deed after conducting a public consultative procedure. The Trustees' approval for some amendments was subject to them applying to the High Court for directions that the amendments are in order (**Outstanding Amendments**).

There are five Outstanding Amendments:

1. **Purpose of the Trust**: removing the requirement for the Trust to be wound up if the Trust no longer holds any shares in King Country Energy.

- 2. Variations to the Deed: introducing a new power of the trustees to vary the Deed without public consultation in certain circumstances.
- 3. Redefining 'Consumers': amending the definition of 'Consumers' to clarify that Consumers include persons who pay for line function services from the Lines Company, but who do not necessarily own the connected premises.
- 4. Power to make grants or donations to charity: clarifying that the trustees can, from time to time, make a donation or grant to a charitable entity whose activities may provide a benefit in the district.
- **5. Definition of dates:** extending the Trust's duration to the maximum duration prescribed by section 16 of the Trusts Act 2019.

The Court has ordered that Mr T C Weston KC be appointed to represent those who wish to oppose, or who may oppose, the trustees' application. Mr Weston KC's details are PO Box 33, Tai Tapu 7645, email: tomweston@xtra.co.nz.

Copies of the statement of claim, supporting affidavit, Explanatory Note and Order of the Court Directing Service and Representation are available for viewing on the Trust's website (<a href="www.kcpowertrust.co.nz">www.kcpowertrust.co.nz</a>) and the public libraries at Taumarunui, Ohakune and Tūrangi during normal business hours.