

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF NEW ZEALAND  
HAMILTON REGISTRY**

**I TE KŌTI MATUA O AOTEAROA  
KIRIKIROA ROHE**

**CIV-2022-**

**UNDER** The Trusts Act 2019 and Part 18 of the High Court Rules  
2016

**IN THE MATTER** of an application under s 133 of the Trusts Act 2019

**BETWEEN** **ADRIAN PAUL DOYLE, UWE KURT KROLL, ROBERT  
WELSFORD CARTER, SANDRA ROSE GREENSLADE,**  
and **JOANNA MARY BRANSGROVE** as trustees of the  
**KING COUNTRY TRUST**

**APPLICANTS**

---

**STATEMENT OF CLAIM**

**30 August 2022**

---

---

 **Simpson Grierson**  
Barristers & Solicitors

H R Smith | J W C Nicolle  
Telephone: +64 3 968 4092  
Email: jonathan.nicolle@simpsongrierson.com  
PO Box 874  
Christchurch

## THE APPLICANTS BY THEIR SOLICITOR SAY:

### Parties

1. The Applicants are the trustees (**Trustees**) of the King Country Trust (**Trust**).
2. The Trust was previously known as King Country Electric Power Trust. Its name was changed by special resolution of the Trustees on 3 May 2022.
3. King Country Energy Limited (**King Country Energy**) is a duly incorporated company having its registered office at 5 Market Lane, Wellington 6011 and carries on business as an electricity generator.
4. The Trustees currently own 24.98 percent of the shares in King Country Energy (**Shares**).
5. The Lines Company Limited (**Lines Company**) is a duly incorporated company having its registered office at King Street East, Te Kuiti and carries on business as an electricity distribution service provider.

### King Country Trust

6. The Trust was established by way of deed of trust dated 18 June 1993 (**Deed**).
7. By unanimous resolution of the Trustees, the Deed was amended on:
  - (a) 19 September 2005 (**2005 Amendments**).
  - (b) 19 October 2011 (**2011 Amendments**).
  - (c) 3 May 2022 (**2022 Amendments**).
8. Beneficiaries of the Trust are defined as “Consumers” and “Default Beneficiaries”.

9. Consumers are defined in clause 1.1(e) of the Deed as persons who are, at any appropriate date designated by the Trustees, named in the Lines Company records as persons connected to the Lines Company's lines network within the district, unless any such person advises the Lines Company or the Trustees irrevocably in writing that he, she, or it does not wish to be a Consumer for the purposes of the Deed.
10. The class of "Default Beneficiaries" will only arise 12 months prior to termination of the Deed, or by such other date designated by the Trustees and are not relevant to this application.
11. The objects of the Trust, as set out in clause 3 of the Deed, are to enable the Trustees:
- (a) to receive shares in King Country Energy vested in the Trustees when the Trust was established;
  - (b) to acquire additional shares, at their discretion;
  - (c) to retain the shares in King Country Energy until there is a decision to dispose of all or any of the shares under clause 4, clause 9.9 or any other power of the Trustees;
  - (d) to hold the proceeds of any sale of shares in the trust fund in accordance with clause 6.1 of the Deed;
  - (e) to receive the dividends and any other income and to distribute or retain such income to or for the benefit of Consumers in accordance with clause 5 of the Deed;
  - (f) following the Termination Date (as defined in the Deed) to retain or distribute the capital of the Trust in accordance with clause 6.2 of the Deed;
  - (g) to encourage and facilitate King Country Energy in meeting its objective of being a successful business by optimising King Country Energy's return on its assets, and to distribute to

Consumers in their capacity as owners, the benefits of ownership of the shares;

- (h) to take any action which, in the opinion of the Trustees, is in the best interests of the Consumers until the Termination Date and the Default Beneficiaries from the Termination Date; and
- (i) to purchase and/or hold and/or dispose of other shares and investments.

**12.** The Trust fund comprises capital and income and must be held by the Trustees on the terms of the Deed (**Trust Fund**).

**13.** The Trustees hold the Trust Fund on trust to:

- (a) pay, apply or allocate to Consumers on or before the Termination Date; and
- (b) pay, apply and appropriate to or for the benefit of Consumers in the manner provided in Clause 6.2 of the Deed after the Termination Date.

**14.** The Termination Date is the earlier of the date on which the Trust is wound up under clause 15 of the Deed or 1 January 2072.

## **2022 Amendments to the Deed**

**15.** In 2021 the Trustees decided to amend the Deed to ensure that it best served Consumers, reflected changing technology and could be clearly understood.

**16.** The changes proposed by the Trustees were incorporated into an explanatory document together with information on how Consumers could find out more information and provide feedback (Public Consultation Explanatory Document). The changes comprised:

- (a) redefining “Review Shares” (being the shares in King Country Energy) as “Shares” (**Shares**) for clarity;

- (b) broadening the review processes in the Deed to reflect that the Trust's key assets may not always be the Shares;
- (c) changing the name of default beneficiaries from "Electors" to "Default Beneficiaries" so that it is easier to understand (without changing the persons included in that class, being "Electors") and adding to the definition of "Elector" to make it clear that it includes a person with an electoral address in the district either by being a residential elector or by being enrolled or nominated as a ratepayer;
- (d) amendments and improvements to the Trust's ownership review process to provide the Trustees flexibility to review the ownership structure outside of the five yearly formal review process if the circumstances warrant it;
- (e) amalgamating clauses about separate annual meetings of Consumers and annual public meetings into a single 'Annual Meeting of Consumers';
- (f) shortening the Trust's name to King Country Trust;
- (g) making general Trust Act 2019 (**Trusts Act**) updates to:
  - (i) extend the maximum duration of the Trust to 125 years, being 17 June 2118;
  - (ii) amending the Trustees' powers to employ, appoint a custodian trustee, and appoint a delegate or attorney to be subject to the relevant Trusts Act clauses;
  - (iii) updating the investment powers to reflect relevant Trust Act clauses;
  - (iv) referring to new obligations about disclosures to beneficiaries;

- (v) amending the limitation of liability clause and the trustee indemnity to include a gross negligence exclusion; and
  - (vi) not allowing a person who is disqualified from being appointed as a trustee under section 96 of the Trusts Act to be a Trustee.
- (h) updating the rules of elections to reflect best practice;
- (i) updating the Deed's introductory provisions to reflect the Deed's history and purpose of the amendments proposed by the Trustees;
- (j) removing King Country Energy as a party to the Deed as it no longer has a specific role and already has no rights or powers under the Deed; and
- (k) making other general modernisation updates to:
- (i) reflect the current situation of the Trust;
  - (ii) reflect changes in legislation introduced by the Trusts Act;
  - (iii) reflect relevant technology developments such as virtual meetings; and
  - (iv) make it easier to read and understand the Deed.
- (l) providing for additional Trustee appointments;
- (m) changing the requirement for Trustees' decisions to be made by unanimous resolution to a special resolution in certain circumstances;
- (n) amending circumstances in which a Trustee will cease to hold office;

- (o) amending the quorum of Trustees required to be a majority to reflect the practicalities of additional Trustees being added;
- (p) updating provisions to make the execution of documents more practical;
- (q) removing the requirement for the Trust to be wound up if all shares in King Country Energy are sold, enabling the Trust to continue to benefit Consumers through management of other investments;
- (r) introducing new powers for the Trustees to alter the Deed without requiring the Public Consultative Procedure in Schedule 4 of the Deed where the amendment is:
  - (i) of a minor, formal, administrative or technical nature (including changes to Schedules);
  - (ii) to correct a manifest error, to cure any ambiguity or to correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision; or
  - (iii) necessary or desirable to comply with the provisions of any law or the requirements of any statutory authority;
- (s) amending the definition of “Consumers” to clarify that persons who pay the Lines Company for line services but who do not own the connected premises are Consumers;
- (t) clarifying the powers of Trustees to make a donation or grant to a charity, for the indirect benefit of Consumers, by:
  - (i) including an express power in clause 5 for Trustees to make a donation or grant (with or without conditions) to a local charitable entity selected by the Trustees from time to time; and

- (ii) defining “Local Charitable Entity” in the Deed;
- (u) amending the definitions of key dates to reflect Trust Act changes to the maximum duration of a trust and the repeal of the Perpetuities Act 1964;

(together, **the Proposed Amendments**)

- 17.** When the Trustees were considering the Proposed Amendments, the procedure for varying the Deed was set out in clause 14 which provided:

14.1 This Deed may be altered or amended only by the unanimous resolution of the Trustees in writing provided however that no amendment shall be effective unless it has been subject to the Public Consultative Procedure.

14.2 Notwithstanding clause 14.1, no alteration or amendment may be made to this Deed that has the effect of limiting or restricting the obligations or powers of the Trustees under this Deed to;

(i) review proposals and available options for the ownership of the Review Shares held by the trustees, in accordance with Clause 4; or

(ii) sell, transfer or dispose of the Review Shares following an ownership review held in accordance with Clause 4.

- 18.** The Public Consultative Procedure was, and remains, set out in Schedule 4 to the Deed.

- 19.** The Trustees subjected the Proposed Amendments to the Public Consultative Procedure by undertaking the following steps:

(a) placing the Proposed Changes before a meeting of the Trustees on 30 August 2021;

(b) publishing the Public Consultation Explanatory Document in the following newspapers:

(i) Taumarunui Bulletin on 15 October 2021;

(ii) Ruapehu Bulletin on 13 October 2021; and



- (iii) Taupō Tūrangi Weekender (since March 2022, known as the Taupō Tūrangi Herald) on 14 October 2021;
- (c) publishing the Public Consultation Explanatory Document on the Trust's website; holding a consultation meeting on 27 October 2021 to hear feedback from Consumers on the Proposed Amendments;
- (d) receiving and reviewing submissions from Consumers on the Proposed Amendments;
- (e) placing submissions from Consumers on the Trust's website;
- (f) holding a further consultation meeting on 21 January 2022 to hear feedback from Consumers during which one Consumer spoke to their written submissions; and
- (g) after the 21 January 2022 meeting, extending the consultation period to 25 March 2022 by providing public notice in the following newspapers:
  - (i) Taumarunui Bulletin on 18 March 2022;
  - (ii) Ruapehu Bulletin on 16 March 2022; and
  - (iii) Taupō Tūrangi Herald on 17 March 2022.

**20.** At a public meeting held on 25 March 2022, and as supplemented in written resolutions dated 3 May 2022, the Trustees:

- (a) unanimously approved the amendments in paragraph 16(a) – (k) unconditionally (**Approved Amendments**);
- (b) declined to approve the amendments in paragraph 16(l) – (p) (**Declined Amendments**); and
- (c) unanimously approved the amendments in paragraph 16(q) – (u) subject to applying to the High Court under section 133 of the Trusts Act 2019 for directions that those amendments are in

order or being satisfied that directions are not required  
**(Outstanding Amendments)**.

### **Particulars**

The Written Resolutions of the Trust dated 3 May 2022 annexed a copy of the 2011 Deed marked up to show:

- (i) Declined Amendments highlighted in red;
- (ii) Approved Amendments highlighted in yellow; and
- (iii) Outstanding Amendments highlighted in blue.

21. The 2022 Amendments adopted the Approved Amendments into the Deed but not the Outstanding Amendments.

### **Outstanding Amendments**

22. The Approved Amendments made minor modernisation amendments to the variation clause which replaced clause 14 in the 2011 Deed with clause 13 as follows:

**13.1 Variations to Deed:** This Deed may be altered or amended only by the unanimous resolution of the Trustees in writing provided however that no amendment shall be effective unless it has been subject to the Public Consultative Procedure.

**13.2 Limitations to Variations:** Notwithstanding clause 13.1, no alteration or amendment may be made to this Deed that has the effect of limiting or restricting the obligations or powers of the Trustees under this Deed to:

- (a) **Review Proposals:** review proposals and available options for the ownership of the Shares held by the Trustees, in accordance with clause 4; or
- (b) **Sale of Shares:** sell, transfer or dispose of the Shares following an Ownership Review held in accordance with clause 4.

23. The Trustees consider they have the requisite powers to vary the Deed to adopt the Outstanding Amendments because:

- (a) clause 13.1 (or clause 14.1 prior to the 2022 Amendments) of the Trust Deed gives the Trustees the power to make amendments that have been subject to the Public Consultative

Procedure, except as provided in clause 13.2 (or clause 14.2 prior to the 2022 Amendments);

- (b) the Outstanding Amendments have been the subject of the Public Consultative Procedure as set out above at paragraph 19;
- (c) the Proposed Amendments do not breach clause 13.2 (or clause 14.2 prior to the 2022 Amendments) because they do not comprise any alteration or amendment that has the effect of limiting or restricting the Trustees' obligations or powers under the Deed to:
  - (i) review proposals and available options for the ownership of the Shares held by the Trustees, in accordance with clause 4; or
  - (ii) sell, transfer or dispose of the Shares following an Ownership Review held in accordance with clause 4; and
- (d) the Outstanding Amendments are necessary and desirable for the proper management or administration of the property vested in the Trustees.

**24.** The Outstanding Amendments are more fully described in paragraphs 25 – 40 of this statement of claim and are particularised in an amended copy of the Deed attached to this statement of claim as Schedule A.

#### **FIRST OUTSTANDING AMENDMENT – PURPOSE OF TRUST**

**25.** “Shares”, as defined in the 2022 Deed, are shares in King Country Energy held by the Trustees.

**26.** The 2022 Deed currently provides that if the Trust no longer holds any equity security (including Shares) or debt security issued by King Country Energy, the Trustees shall pass resolutions requiring the Trust to be wound up.

- 27.** The Trustees are proposing that:
- (a) the requirement for the Trust to be wound up if the Shares are sold is removed, so that the Trust can continue to benefit Consumers through the continued management of investments acquired in place of Shares, if sold;
  - (b) the review processes in the Deed be broadened to reflect that the key assets of the Trust may not always be the Shares;
  - (c) the Trustees be required to undertake ownership reviews under clause 4 of the Deed of all assets of the Trust, not just the Shares; and
  - (d) the winding up provisions in the Deed be updated to:
    - (i) remove the requirement to wind up the Trust if it no longer holds any shares in King Country Energy (or other equity security or a debt security of King Country Energy); and
    - (ii) broaden the Trust's ability to benefit Consumers through management of other investments forming part of the Trust Fund.

**28.** The First Outstanding Amendment is provided by:

- (a) inserting clause 1.1(x) to define "Special Ownership Review";
- (b) replacing "Shares" with "Trust Fund" at clause 1.1(i);
- (c) amending clause 3.7, to acknowledge that this clause (about how the Trustees interact with King Country Energy) is only applicable to the extent that it is consistent with the Trustees' holding of Shares;

- (d) amending clause 4 to:
- (i) amend the clause title to make it clear that the review process will apply to the whole Trust Fund and not just to Shares;
  - (ii) modernise clause 4.2(b) for clarity and to replace references to “Shares” with “Trust Fund”;
  - (iii) amend provisions requiring the Trustees to carry out an ownership review of the whole Trust Fund as required under clauses 4.1, 4.10 or 4.11; and
  - (iv) delete the requirement for the Distribution Plan to contain details about consideration for the Shares.
- (e) amending clause 14.1 as follows:
- (i) additional wording to clarify that the Trustees must pass resolutions requiring the Trust be wound up in the event of a “Trigger Event”, being:
    - the full distribution of the Trust Fund leaving the Trust with no assets; or
    - no resolution to wind the Trust up being passed before the Determination Date (as defined in proposed clause 1.1(h));
  - (ii) clarifying changes to reflect that if a Trigger Event occurs but winding up resolutions have not been passed by the Termination Date (as defined in proposed clause 1.1(y)), the existing surplus property provisions in clause 14.2 shall apply; and
  - (iii) deleting references to equity security or debt security issued by King Country Energy and references to

specific dates which the Trustees propose amending in the Fifth Outstanding Amendment.

## **SECOND OUTSTANDING AMENDMENT – VARIATIONS TO DEED**

**29.** The Trustees propose a new power for the Trustees to vary the Deed without requiring the Public Consultative Procedure where the amendments are:

- (a) minor;
- (b) of a corrective nature; or
- (c) necessary or desirable to comply with the provisions of any law or the requirements of any statutory authority.

**30.** The powers are proposed because it is an inefficient and unnecessary use of Trust resources to run a Public Consultative Procedure for the kinds of amendments referred to in paragraph 29.

**31.** The Second Outstanding Amendment is provided by:

- (a) inserting a new clause 13.1 which permits amendments without the Public Consultative Procedure where, after taking advice as the Trustees determine, the amendment is:
  - (i) of a minor, formal, administrative or technical nature (including changes to the Deed's schedules);
  - (ii) to correct a manifest error, cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision; or
  - (iii) necessary or desirable to comply with the provisions of any law or the requirements of any statutory authority; and
- (b) re-numbering the existing power to amend the Deed through the Public Consultative Procedure as clause 13.2 (rather than clause 13.1);

- (c) amending clause 13.2 to state that, except as permitted under clause 13.1 (i.e. the new minor amendments power described above), all variations to the Deed require the Public Consultative Procedure;
- (d) retaining clauses (renumbered clause 13.3(a) and (b)) which prevent any change that would limit or restrict review of the ownership of Shares or the sale of them when required; and
- (e) deleting clause 13 of Schedule 3 (which provides for amendments to administrative provisions in schedules without the need for the Public Consultative Procedure), as this would now be captured in clause 13.1(a) of the Deed.

### **THIRD OUTSTANDING AMENDMENT – REDEFINING CONSUMER**

- 32. The Trustees propose an amendment to the definition of “Consumer” 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.
- 33. The Third Outstanding Amendment is provided by amending clause 1.1(e) by:
  - (a) deleting reference to “whose premises are”;
  - (b) inserting “who own and/or use an electrical installation”; and
  - (c) inserting “and who are liable for payment of any amounts for the supply of line function services to the person”.

### **FOURTH OUTSTANDING AMENDMENT – POWER TO MAKE GRANT OR DONATION TO CHARITY**

- 34. The Trustees propose an amendment to clarify that they have the power to pay or apply income of the Trust for the benefit of Consumers indirectly by making a donation or grant to a charitable entity whose activities may provide a benefit in the district, as selected by the Trustees from time to time.

- 35.** The Fourth Outstanding Amendment is provided by:
- (a) inserting a new clause 1.1(r) to define "Local Charitable Entity";
  - (b) amending clause 5.1 to:
    - (i) expressly permit the Trustees to pay or apply the income to some or all of the Consumers or to a Local Charitable Entity as the Trustees see fit, subject to clause 5.2; and
    - (ii) modernise the language in the clause.

#### **FIFTH OUTSTANDING AMENDMENT – DEFINITION OF DATES**

- 36.** The Deed's termination date is currently 1 January 2072, being less than the maximum period of 80 years after the execution of the Deed on 18 June 1993.
- 37.** As the Trusts Act abolished the rule against perpetuities, the maximum duration of a Trust can now be up to 125 years after its creation.
- 38.** The Perpetuities Act 1964 has also been repealed.
- 39.** The Trustees proposed amending the Deed to reflect the longer permissible expiry date for the Trust and to implement consequential amendments to the Deed's definitions of "Determination Date" and "Termination Date".
- 40.** The Fifth Proposed Amendment is provided by:
- (a) the insertion of clause 1.1(h) to provide that the Determination Date means the earlier of:
    - (i) 1 January 2117 being 12 months prior to the Termination Date; and
    - (ii) such other date as designated by the Trustees as the appropriate date for determination.



- (b) the amendment of clause 1.1(z) setting out the definition of Termination date;
- (c) the insertion of clause 1.1(aa) to define the "Trust Expiry Date" as 125 years from the date of execution of the Deed on 18 June 1993, being:
  - (i) 17 June 2118; or
  - (ii) Any later date permitted by law at any time for the purposes of setting the maximum duration of a trust;
- (d) the replacement of clause 1.3 setting out that the maximum duration of the Trust is the period beginning from 18 June 1993 and ending on the Trust Expiry Date;
- (e) amending the following clauses not already mentioned to reflect the correct use of the defined terms "Termination Date" and "Determination Date":
  - (i) clause 1.1(h) (ascertainment of Default Beneficiaries);
  - (ii) clause 3.6 (application of capital at mandatory wind up of Trust at end of its life);
  - (iii) clause 3.8 (ascertainment of beneficiaries for purposes of acting in their best interests);
  - (iv) clause 4.10 (describing when ongoing review obligation ends);
  - (v) clause 6.2 (capital held for benefit of Consumers until Termination Date, and Default Beneficiaries from Termination Date); and
  - (vi) clause 14.1 (winding up required to be commenced from the Determination Date).

**THE APPLICANTS SEEK:**

41. The Trustees seek orders under section 133 of the Trusts Act 2019 that:
- (a) the Trustees have the necessary power to adopt the Outstanding Amendments and amend the Deed as described in the Schedule A attached to this statement of claim; and
  - (b) it is proper and lawful for the Trustees to implement the Outstanding Amendments and amend the Deed as described in the Schedule A attached to this statement of claim.

This document is filed by HELEN REBECCA SMITH solicitor for the Applicants of the firm Simpson Grierson.

The address for service of the Applicants is at the offices of Simpson Grierson, Level 1, 151 Cambridge Terrace, West End, Christchurch.

Documents for service on the Applicants may be left at that address for service or may be emailed to the solicitor at [helen.smith@simpsongrierson.com](mailto:helen.smith@simpsongrierson.com) and [jonathan.nicolle@simpsongrierson.com](mailto:jonathan.nicolle@simpsongrierson.com).

**SCHEDULE A**  
**Amended Deed Showing the Outstanding Amendments**



Whakarato Te Rohe Pōtae

---

KING COUNTRY TRUST

# TRUST DEED

*As amended 3 May 2022*

## KING COUNTRY TRUST

**THIS DEED** is made on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2022

**BY** Adrian Paul Doyle, Uwe Kurt Kroll, Robert Welsford Carter, Sandra Rose Greenslade and Joanna Mary Bransgrove (**Trustees**)

**THIS DEED WITNESSES THAT** with effect on the Effective Date, this Deed will replace the Prior Trust Deed. For the avoidance of doubt, it is intended that the Trust will continue to operate as the same Trust before and after the Effective Date, but will be governed and administered as provided in this Deed.

### **BACKGROUND**

- A. The Trust was originally established by King Country Energy Limited and the original trustees on the terms set out in the 1993 Deed dated 18 June 1993, and as further amended and consolidated in the Deed dated 19 October 2011.
- B. This Deed amends and consolidates the Deed to:
  - i) **Sale of Shares:** allow the sale of the Shares in the Company at any time, if warranted following a review, after public consultation;
  - ii) **Modernisation:** modernise the wording in the Deed and make it easier to read and understand and reflect relevant technology developments such as electronic meetings; and
  - iii) **Trusts Act 2019:** include amendments required or desirable as a result of the Trusts Act 2019.

## 1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

---

### 1.1 Definitions: In this Deed, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) "Act" means the Energy Companies Act 1992;
- (b) "Balance Date" means 31 March or any other date from time to time adopted by the Company as at the end of the Financial Year;
- (c) "Bank" means a bank registered in New Zealand under the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 1989;
- (d) "Company" means King Country Energy Limited, and includes any successor company;
- (e) "Consumers" means persons, who at any appropriate date designated by the Trustees from time to time, are named in the records of the Lines Company as persons who own and/or use an electrical installation whose premises are connected to the Lines Company's lines network within the District, and who are liable for payment of any amounts for the supply of line function services to the person, unless any such person who qualifies as a Consumer in accordance with this definition advises the Lines Company or the Trustees irrevocably in writing that he, she or it does not wish to be a Consumer for the purposes of this Deed;
- (f) "Deed" means this Deed and includes the schedules and any amendments;
- (g) "Default Beneficiaries" means, at the ~~first anniversary of the~~ Termination Date or the Determination Date (as applicable in the circumstances), ~~or at any earlier appropriate date designated from time to time by the Trustees,~~ the Electors;
- (h) "Determination Date" means the earlier of:
  - (i) 1 January 2117, being 12 months prior to the Termination Date; and
  - (ii) such other date designated by the Trustees as the appropriate date for a determination under this Deed;
- ~~(h)~~(i) "Distribution Plan" means a plan for the distribution of all or part of the ~~Shares~~ Trust Fund prepared by the Trustees in accordance with clause 4.6;
- ~~(h)~~(j) "District" means the area over which the former King Country Electric Power Board (as constituted by section 10 of the Electric Power Boards Act 1925) was authorised to supply electricity under the licence granted to that board under section 20 of the Electricity Act 1968, or such other area the Trustees determine at their sole discretion;
- ~~(h)~~(k) "Dividends" means, in relation to the Company, any distributions paid in cash by the Company to the Trustees as holders of the Shares in the Company;
- ~~(h)~~(l) "Effective Date" means the date on which the Trustees resolve to adopt this Deed in accordance with clause 14 of the Prior Trust Deed;
- ~~(h)~~(m) "Elector" means, at the relevant time, any person:

- (i) whose name appears on a roll of the electors of a Local Authority the whole or any part of whose district is situated within the District; and
- (ii) whose electoral address is within the District (with the "electoral address" being the qualifying address for a residential elector or the address in respect of which a ratepayer elector is enrolled or nominated);

~~(m)~~(n) "**Financial Year**" means any year or other accounting period ending on a Balance Date;

~~(n)~~(o) "**Guidelines**" means any document issued by the Trust from time to time which describes the Consumers' rights of access to information from the Trust;

~~(o)~~(p) "**Lines Company**" means The Lines Company Limited, and includes any successor company;

~~(p)~~(q) "**Local Authority**" means a territorial authority within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002;

(r) "**Local Charitable Entity**" means a company, society, trust or other entity:

(i) established and maintained exclusively for purposes that are charitable in accordance with New Zealand law, and not for private profit; and

(ii) whose activities may provide a benefit in the District;

~~(q)~~(s) "**Other Shares**" means shares in any company other than the Shares of the Company;

~~(r)~~(t) "**Ownership Review**" has the meaning given to it in clause 4.1;

~~(s)~~(u) "**Prior Trust Deed**" means the 1993 Deed as amended on 19 October 2011;

~~(t)~~(v) "**Public Consultative Procedure**" means the procedure for consultation set out in Schedule 4;

~~(u)~~(w) "**Shares**" means the shares of the Company held by the Trustees under this Deed;

~~(v)~~(x) "**Special Ownership Review**" has the meaning given to it in clause 4.11;

(y) "**Termination Date**" means the earlier of: ~~1 January 2072 and the date upon which the trust is wound up in accordance with clause 14;~~

(i) 1 January 2118, being six months prior to the Trust Expiry Date; and

~~(t)~~(ii) the date that the Trust is wound up in accordance with clause 14;

~~(w)~~(z) "**Trust**" means the trust established by the 1993 Deed, as subsequently amended;

(aa) "Trust Expiry Date" means the date of expiry of the period of 125 years from the date of execution of the 1993 Deed, being 17 June 2118, or any later date permitted by law at any time for the purposes of setting the maximum duration of a trust;

~~(x)~~(bb) "Trustees" means the trustees for the time being of the Trust;

~~(y)~~(cc) "Trust Fund" means all the funds of the Trust described as the "Trust Fund" in clause 2.2, and includes all capital and income for the time being held by the Trustees of the Trust;

~~(z)~~(dd) "Trusts Act" means the Trusts Act 2019;

~~(aa)~~(ee) "Working Day" means any day excluding Saturdays, Sundays and statutory public holidays in New Zealand and the District; and

~~(bb)~~(ff) "1993 Deed" means the Deed dated 18 June 1993.

**1.2 Interpretation:** In this Deed, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) **Defined Expressions:** expressions defined in the main body of this Deed have the defined meaning throughout this Deed, including the background;
- (b) **Gender:** references to one gender include the other genders;
- (c) **Headings:** section, clause and other headings are for ease of reference only and will not form any part of the context or affect this Deed's interpretation;
- (d) **Parties:** references to parties are references to parties to this Deed;
- (e) **Persons:** references to persons include references to individuals, companies, corporations, partnerships, firms, joint ventures, associations, trusts, organisations, governmental or other regulatory bodies or authorities or other entities in each case whether or not having separate legal personality;
- (f) **Plural and Singular:** references to the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (g) **Clauses/Schedules:** references to clauses and schedules are references to clauses in, and schedules to this Deed. Each such schedule forms part of this Deed;
- (h) **Statutory Provisions:** references to any statutory provision are to statutory provisions in force in New Zealand and include any statutory provision which amends or replaces it, and any by-law, regulation, order, statutory instrument, determination or subordinate legislation made under it;
- (i) **Negative Obligations:** any obligation not to do anything includes an obligation not to suffer, permit or cause that thing to be done;
- (j) **Inclusive Expressions:** the term includes or including (or any similar expression) is deemed to be followed by the words "without limitation"; and



- (k) **Definitions in Act:** words, terms or expressions which are defined in the Act but are not defined in this Deed will have the meaning attributed to them in the Act.

1.3 **Trust Expiry Date:** For the purposes of the Trusts Act, the maximum duration of the Trust applicable to this Deed is the period that begins from the date of the 1993 Deed and ends on the Trust Expiry Date.

~~**Perpetuity Period:** For the purposes of the Perpetuities Act 1964 the perpetuity period applicable to this Deed shall be the period from the date of execution hereof until the first anniversary of the Termination Date.~~

## 2. NAME AND DECLARATION OF TRUST

---

2.1 **Name:** The name of the Trust is the **KING COUNTRY TRUST**. The name of the Trust may be changed from time to time by resolution of the Trustees that has received unanimous affirmative vote of all the Trustees.

2.2 **Fund Held on Trust:** The Trust Fund consists of:

- (a) **Assets:** the assets for the time being held for the purposes of the Trust, including, at the date of this Deed, the Shares;
- (b) **Income:** income of the Trust from any source and any donations, bequests or other gifts, funds, investments, policies, money or property received for the Trust by way of addition or accretion or otherwise; and
- (c) **Other:** any other property of any nature coming in to the hands of the Trustees for the purposes of the Trust,
- (together the **Trust Fund**).

2.3 **Control of the Trust Fund:** The Trust Fund must be held on trust by or on behalf of the Trustees for the purposes of the Trust and must be administered by the Trustees in accordance with this Deed.

## 3. OBJECTS

---

This Trust has been established to enable the Trustees:

- 3.1 **Receive the Shares:** to receive the Shares when the Trust was established;
- 3.2 **Additional Shares in Company:** to acquire additional Shares, at their discretion;
- 3.3 **Retain or Dispose of Shares in Company:** to retain the Shares until there is a decision to dispose of all or any of the Shares under clause 4, clause 9.9 or any other power of the Trustees;
- 3.4 **Hold Proceeds of Sale:** to hold the proceeds of any sale of Shares in the Trust Fund in accordance with clause 6.1;
- 3.5 **Dividends:** to receive the Dividends and any other income and to distribute or retain such income to or for the benefit of the Consumers in accordance with clause 5;

- 3.6 **Apply Capital on Termination:** following [the Determination Date and prior to](#) the Termination Date, to retain for the time being or distribute the capital of the Trust in accordance with clause 6.2;
- 3.7 **Facilitate Company Objectives:** [to the extent that it is consistent with the Trustees' holding of the Shares](#), to encourage and facilitate the Company in meeting its objective of being a successful business by optimising the Company's return on its assets, and to distribute to the Consumers in their capacity as owners, the benefits of ownership of the Shares;
- 3.8 **Best Interests of the Beneficiaries:** to take any action which, in the opinion of the Trustees, is in best interests of the Consumers until the ~~Determination~~Termination Date and the Default Beneficiaries from the ~~Determination~~Termination Date; and
- 3.9 **Make other investments:** to purchase and/or hold and/or dispose of Other Shares and investments.

#### 4. **REVIEW [OF TRUST FUND](#)**

---

- 4.1 **Review:** Within 36 months of the date of the 1993 Deed, and when otherwise required under clause 4.10 or clause 4.11, the Trustees must prepare a report considering proposals and available options for the future ownership of the ~~Shares~~[Trust Fund](#) (**Ownership Review**).
- 4.2 **Ownership Review Requirements:** The Ownership Review must contain the following detail:
- (a) **Performance Analysis:** an analysis of the performance of the Trust to the date of the Ownership Review, together with a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of trust ownership [of all or part of the Trust Fund](#);
- ~~(b)~~ **Ownership Analysis:** an analysis of the various ownership options considered including: ~~without limitation, a Share distribution to Consumers or Default Beneficiaries, a sale of Shares to the public, a sale of Shares to institutional investors and retention by the Trust;~~
- ~~(i)~~ **Distribution:** [a distribution of all or part of the Trust Fund \(or proceeds of sale\) to the Consumers or Default Beneficiaries;](#)
- ~~(ii)~~ **Sale to Public:** [a sale of all or part of the Trust Fund to the public;](#)
- ~~(iii)~~ **Sale to Institutional Investors:** [a sale of all or part of the Trust Fund to institutional investors; and](#)
- ~~(+)(iv)~~ **Retention:** [retention of all or part of the Trust Fund by the Trust.](#)
- ~~(b)(c)~~ **Comparison:** a comparison of the performance by the Company with the performance of other similar energy companies covered by the Energy Companies Act 1992 and subsequent legislation [\(if Shares are held\)](#);
- ~~(e)(d)~~ **Conclusions:** the conclusions of the Trustees as to the most appropriate form of ownership together with an indication of whether the conclusions are unanimous. If the decision is not unanimous, a summary of the conclusions of the dissenting Trustees must be included;

~~(d)~~**(e)** **Distribution Plan:** the matters contained in clause 4.7, if a distribution of all or part of the Trust Fund Shares is recommended;

~~(e)~~**(f)** **Summary of Professional Advice:** a summary of the professional advice obtained in respect of the preparation of the Ownership Review; and

~~(f)~~**(g)** **Public Views:** a statement as to whether or not the Trustees have had regard to any views expressed by the public with respect to ownership.

**4.3 Public Consultative Procedure:** The Trustees must, in respect of the Ownership Review, and no later than one month after the date of the Ownership Review, implement the Public Consultative Procedure.

**4.4 Completion of Public Consultative Procedure:** Following completion of the Public Consultative Procedure, and in any event not later than six months after the Ownership Review is complete, the Trustees must, taking due account of the views expressed, decide whether to:

**(a) Retention:** retain all of the Shares Trust Fund in the Trust; or

**(b) Partial Retention:** dispose of ~~a portion of the Shares and retain the remainder in the Trust~~ part of the Trust Fund; or

**(c) Disposal:** dispose of all of the Shares Trust Fund.

**4.5 Notification of Retention:** If all or part of the Trust Fund is to be retained by the Trust, the Trustees must notify the public in accordance with clause 12.

**4.6 Distribution Plan:** If all or part of the ~~Shares Trust Fund is~~ are to be distributed, the Trustees must also prepare a distribution plan (**Distribution Plan**).

**4.7 Distribution Plan Requirements:** The Distribution Plan must contain the following details:

**(a) Recipients:** who all or part of the Shares Trust Fund will be distributed to; and

**(b) Time Frame:** the time and manner in which all or part of the Trust Fund is ~~Shares are~~ to be distributed; ~~and~~

~~(c) **Consideration:** whether the Shares are to be distributed to consumers without consideration, at a concessionary consideration to consumers or for proper consideration.~~

**4.104.8 Notification of Distribution Plan:** The Distribution Plan must be notified to the public in accordance with clause 12. Following notification, the Trustees will be obliged to comply with the requirements of, and ensure that the Distribution Plan is implemented unless the Trustees are unable to do so as a result of matters beyond the reasonable control of the Trustees.

**4.114.9 Update the Investment Policy:** The Trustees must review the Trust's investment policy statement in conjunction with the Ownership Review and may do so more frequently, and update it within a reasonable time of the completion of the applicable processes in clauses 4.1 to 4.8, if appropriate.

**4.124.10 Ongoing Review:** The Trustees must carry out a review in accordance with clause 4 at no more than five year intervals until the ~~Determination~~ Termination Date, with the second review commencing five years after the completion of the first review.

**4.134.11 Special Review:** The Trustees may requisition a special review of the ownership of all or part of the Trust Fund at any time that they consider that such a review is warranted (**Special Ownership Review**). If a Special Ownership Review is requisitioned under this clause, the Trustees shall carry out the review in accordance with the processes in clauses 4.1 to 4.8.

## 5. INCOME

---

The Trustees have the following powers in relation to the income of the Trust Fund, and will hold the income of the Trust Fund on the terms of this clause 5, after payment of the cost of administering the Trust, including remuneration and allowances payable to Trustees under the schedules:

**5.1 Pay or Apply:** the Trustees may, subject to clause 5.2, pay, ~~or apply~~ ~~or appropriate the whole or any part of the current net annual~~ ~~the~~ income ~~derived by or credited to the Trust Fund in any Financial Year to or for or otherwise howsoever~~ for the benefit of ~~all of~~ the Consumers or ~~any of the Consumers such one or more of them~~ to the exclusion of the others or other of them in ~~any way such manner~~ and in ~~such any~~ shares ~~which the Trustees and proportions as the Trustees~~ in their ~~absolute and unfettered~~ discretion ~~shall~~ consider proper, including through making a donation or grant (with or without conditions) to a Local Charitable Entity selected by the Trustees from time to time;

**5.2 Retain Dividends:** the Trustees may retain any Dividends and any other income received, for such period as they consider to be proper prior to payment or application in accordance with clause 5.1;

**5.3 No Obligations After Payment of Income:** all the Consumers to whom any income is paid or applied by the Trustees under clause 5.1, will, from the date of such payment or application, take an absolute and indefeasibly vested interest in the income and the Trustees will have no further obligations with respect to that income;

**5.4 No Effect on Capital:** clauses 5.1 to 5.3 (inclusive) will not operate to vest any part of the capital of the Trust Fund in any of the Consumers;

**5.5 Accumulation:** subject to clauses 5.1 to 5.3 (inclusive), any income not paid or applied under clause 5.1 in any Financial Year, will be accumulated and:

(a) **Added to Capital:** added to and form part of the capital of the Trust Fund; and

(b) **Subject to Terms of Trust:** be held subject to the terms of this Deed in respect of the capital of the Trust Fund;

**5.6 Trustee as Consumer:** each Trustee in their capacity as a Consumer will, notwithstanding any other provision of this Deed or any applicable rule of law or equity, be entitled to receive any benefits as a Consumer which may be distributed to the Consumers in accordance with this Deed;

**5.7 Unclaimed Payments:** all payments made to Consumers unclaimed for one year having been sent to any Consumer may be invested or made use of by the Trustees for the benefit of the Trust Fund. The Trustees will be entitled to:

- (a) **Mingle:** mingle the amounts of any unclaimed payment with other money forming part of the Trust Fund; and
- (b) **Credit:** credit any income arising in any Financial Year from the investment of such unclaimed payments to the Trust Fund; and

**5.8 Unclaimed Benefits:** the Trustees must exercise reasonable diligence in tracing the Consumers entitled to payments, but in the event of the Trustees being unsuccessful, any moneys payable which are not claimed within six years after the date on which they become due, will revert to the Trust Fund.

## 6. CAPITAL

---

**6.1 Prior to Termination Date:** The capital of the Trust Fund will:

- (a) **Benefit of Consumers:** be held by the Trustees upon trust to pay or apply the capital of the Trust Fund, on or before the Termination Date, for the benefit of the Consumers; or
- (b) **Benefit of Company:** to the extent that the Shares or the Other Shares are sold in order to raise funds for the Company, for the benefit of the Company, in any way and in any shares which the Trustees consider proper in their discretion.

**6.2 Termination Date:** From and after [the Determination Date and prior to](#) the Termination Date, the Trustees will hold the capital and the income of the Trust Fund on trust to pay or apply for the benefit of the Consumers in any way and in any shares which the Trustees consider proper in their discretion, provided that if the Trustees have not so paid or applied any or all of the Trust Fund on the day before ~~the first anniversary of~~ the Termination Date, the amount remaining will be paid in equal shares to the Default Beneficiaries as at ~~the first anniversary of~~ the Termination Date.

## 7. TERM OF OFFICE, REMUNERATION AND PROCEEDINGS OF TRUSTEES

---

**7.1 Schedule 1:** The rules set out in Schedule 1 govern the terms of office of the Trustees (including the appointment and election and cessation of office of the Trustees).

**7.2 Schedule 2:** The rules set out in Schedule 2 govern the remuneration and expenses of the Trustees.

**7.3 Schedule 3:** The rules set out in Schedule 3 govern the meetings and proceedings of the Trustees and associated matters.

## 8. GENERAL POWERS

---

**8.1 General Powers:** The Trustees may exercise all the powers and discretions conferred by this Deed in addition to, and not in any way limited or restricted by the powers, authorities and discretions conferred on the Trustees generally by the Trusts Act (except where otherwise specified in this Deed).

## 9. SPECIFIC POWERS

---

Without limiting clause 8, the Trustees will have, either alone or together with any other person or persons, the following specific powers in relation to the Trust:

- 9.1 To Appoint Directors:** to appoint directors of the Company in the manner provided by the Constitution of the Company;
- 9.2 To Appoint Secretary:** to appoint and pay any person, who is not a Trustee, as secretary of the Trust and to remove such person and appoint replacement secretaries as they think fit;
- 9.3 To Employ:** subject to sections 67 to 73 of the Trusts Act, to employ and pay any person, firm, company or corporation to do any act relating to the Trust, including the receipt and payment of money without being liable for loss incurred;
- 9.4 To Appoint Custodian Trustee:** to exercise the powers conferred by section 67 of the Trusts Act to appoint any corporation to be a custodian trustee of the Trust Fund;
- 9.5 To Invest:** to invest or reinvest, in any form of investment authorised by this Deed or by law, all or any part of the Trust Fund, whether income or capital, not immediately required for the purposes of the Trust;
- 9.6 Bank Accounts:** to open an account or accounts at any time in the name of the Trust at any Bank (and to overdraw any such account with or without giving any security). Cheques, withdrawals and authorities must be signed or endorsed, as the case may be, by any person or persons (including in all instances at least one Trustee) who the Trustees from time to time authorise in writing;
- 9.7 Capital, Income and Blended Funds:** to:
- (a) **Income or Capital:** determine whether any money for the purposes of this Deed is to be considered as income or capital;
  - (b) **Expenses:** determine what expenses should be paid out of income and capital respectively; and
  - (c) **Apportion:** apportion payments,
- and every such determination or apportionment will be final and binding on all persons beneficially interested in the Trust Fund and income of the Trust;
- 9.8 Shareholders Powers:** subject to the provisions of this Deed, to exercise, as the Trustees in their absolute discretion think fit, all the voting powers attaching to any Shares and Other Shares forming part of the Trust Fund;
- 9.9 Reorganisation, Reconstruction, Merger:** to consider any recommendations made by the directors of the Company on any proposal relating to:
- (a) **Reorganisation:** any reconstruction, amalgamation or merger of the Company; or
  - (b) **Modification to Rights:** any modification or reduction of the rights of the Trustees as shareholders; or
  - (c) **Other Dealings:** subject to clause 9.10, other dealings with the Shares,
- and after giving due consideration to the recommendations of the directors of the Company, to make a decision in respect of any such proposal as the Trustees may consider will be for the benefit of or in the interests of the Trust Fund;

- 9.10 Increase in Capital:** to consider any recommendations made by the directors of the Company on any proposal to increase the capital of the Company;
- 9.11 Determining Questions:** to determine all questions and matters of doubt which may arise in the course of the Trusteeship of this Trust;
- 9.12 Property:** to acquire, sell, call in or convert any real or personal property in such manner and subject to such terms and conditions as the Trustees think fit;
- 9.13 Maintain Property:** to maintain, manage, repair, improve and develop any real or personal property which, or an interest in, forms part of the Trust Fund in such manner as the Trustees think fit;
- 9.14 To Borrow:** to borrow moneys on such terms and on such conditions and for such purpose as the Trustees think fit;
- 9.15 Appoint Delegate/Attorney:** subject to sections 67 to 73 of the Trusts Act, at any time and for any period, to appoint another person as a delegate or an attorney of all or any of the Trustees, anywhere in the world for all or any of the purposes of the Trust;
- 9.16 Advice of Counsel:** to take and act upon the opinion of any solicitor or barrister of the High Court of New Zealand of not less than seven (7) years' standing (**Advice**). This Advice may be in relation to the interpretation of this Deed, any other document or any statute, as to the administration of the Trust, without being liable to any person who may claim to be beneficially interested in respect of any act done in accordance with the Advice. Nothing in this clause prohibits the Trustees from applying to the Court should the Trustees think fit; and
- 9.17 General:** to do any other acts and things as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion consider incidental or conclusive to the attainment of the general purpose of the Trust.

## **10. INVESTMENT**

---

- 10.1 Investment Types:** The Trustees may invest all or any of the Trust Fund held by them under this Deed, in all or any of the following investments:
- (a) Shares:** Shares or other equity securities or debt securities of the Company and Other Shares;
  - (b) Government Investment:** the stock, funds or other securities of the New Zealand Government;
  - (c) Bank Deposits:** interest bearing deposit accounts with any Bank; and
  - (d) Other:** any other investments the Trustees think proper or expedient,
- in accordance with any statement of investment policy adopted by the Trustees from time to time.
- 10.2 Funds not Invested:** The Trustees may hold all or any part of the Trust Fund uninvested in accordance with clause 10.1 for any period or periods for the purpose of:

- (a) **Sufficient Funds:** accumulating sufficient funds for the purposes of investment; or
- (b) **Debts:** holding sufficient funds to meet payments as they fall due.

**10.3 Exception:** Despite:

- (a) **Trusts Act 2019:** the provisions of section 30 of the Trusts Act; and
- (b) **Professional Trustees:** the likelihood that the Trustees will from time to time include persons whose profession, employment, or business is or includes acting as a trustee or investing money on behalf of others,

the care, diligence and skill to be exercised by the Trustees in exercising any power of investment will not be that required by section 30 of the Trusts Act but will at all times be the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person of business would exercise in managing the affairs of others.

**10.4 No Diversification:** Notwithstanding anything in this Deed, no Trustee will be liable for any breach of trust in respect of any duty to exercise the care, diligence and skill:

- (a) **Prudent Person of Business:** that a prudent person of business would exercise in managing the affairs of others; or
- (b) **Professional Trustee:** that a prudent person engaged in a profession, employment or business that is or includes acting as a trustee or investing money on behalf of others would exercise in managing the affairs of others,

merely because the investments of the Trust Fund are not diversified.

## **11. TRUSTEE OBLIGATIONS**

---

The Trustees:

- 11.1 Act as a Diligent Shareholder:** must act as a diligent shareholder of the Company and in particular, monitor the performance of the directors of the Company and exercise the rights of shareholders for the benefit of the Trust Fund and with due regard to the objective of the Company to be a successful business, while Shares are held;
- 11.2 Accounts of Financial Transactions:** must, ensure that full and correct accounts of all financial transactions of the Trust and its assets and liabilities and funds are kept;
- 11.3 Annual Meeting of Consumers:** must, in each Financial Year, hold an annual meeting of Consumers (**Annual Meeting of Consumers**). At the Annual Meeting of Consumers:
  - (a) **Auditor:** the Consumers must appoint an auditor to hold office from the conclusion of that Annual Meeting of Consumers until the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting of Consumers. The auditor must:
    - (i) **Qualified:** be a qualified auditor (within the meaning of section 35 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013) and, in selecting an auditor, the Consumers may seek the advice of the Auditor-General; and



- (ii) **Independent:** not be a Trustee, director, employee, or agent of the Trust or of the Company or otherwise disqualified from being an auditor under section 36(4)(b) and (d) of the Financial Reporting Act 2013;
- (b) **Operation of Trust:** the Trustees will report on the operation of the Trust during the previous Financial Year; and
- (c) **Financial Statements:** the Trustees will report on the Financial Statements of the Trust for that Financial Year;

#### 11.4 Procedures for Annual Meeting of Consumers:

- (a) **Notice of Annual Meeting of Consumers:** must give no less than 14 days' notice of the Annual Meeting of Consumers in the news section of two separate editions of each a newspaper that is widely read by the Consumers of the holding of such a meeting;
- (b) **Votes:** must ensure that each Consumer has one vote at the Annual Meeting of Consumers;
- (c) **Quorum:** must ensure that the quorum for the Annual Meeting of Consumers is 20 Consumers;
- (d) **No Business Without Quorum:** must ensure that no business may be transacted at the Annual Meeting of Consumers if a quorum is not present; and
- (e) **Permitted Guests:** may permit guests to attend the Annual Meeting of Consumers, who will not have voting rights;

#### 11.5 Financial Statements: must, within 4 months after the end of each Financial Year:

- (a) **Prepare Financial Statements:** prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice (within the meaning of section 8 of the Financial Reporting Act 2013) in relation to the Trust for that Financial Year. The names of persons and organisations that distributions of income have been made to and the amounts distributed must be recorded in the records held at the office of the Trust;
- (b) **Audit:** submit those financial statements to an auditor for audit;
- (c) **Publication:** make those audited financial statements and the auditor's report on those financial statements publically available in accordance with section 100 of the Electricity Industry Act 2010;
- (d) **Availability to Public:** make the documents referred to in clause 11.5(c) available to the public by making copies of them available:
  - (i) **Trust's Office:** for inspection at every office of the Trust (during ordinary office hours free of charge);
  - (ii) **Available for Purchase:** for purchase at a reasonable price; and
  - (iii) **Website:** for inspection or download at no cost on the Trust's website; and

- (e) **Notification of Availability:** notify the fact that copies of the documents referred to in clause 11.5(c) are available (and where) by advertisement in the news section of two separate editions of each newspaper that is widely read by the Consumers;

**11.6 Copy of Deed:** must make a copy of this Deed available to the public in accordance with clause 12 and in accordance with the provisions of the Guidelines; and

**11.7 Virtual Meeting:** may hold any meeting of the Consumers in accordance with the virtual meeting requirements set out in rule 9.1 of Schedule 3, as if any reference to the Trustees was a reference to the Consumers.

## **12. INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC**

---

**12.1 Guidelines:** The Trustees must comply with the Guidelines, established for the purpose of providing information to the Consumers.

**12.2 Availability to the Public:** For the purpose of complying with any requirement under this Deed to make any document or information available to the public, it will be sufficient for the Trustees to make the document or information available:

- (a) **Trust Office:** for inspection at any office of the Trust;
- (b) **Company Office:** for inspection at any office of the Company;
- (c) **Other Place in the District:** for inspection at any other place in the District during normal business hours on any business day; or
- (d) **Website:** on the Trust's website.

**12.3 Notice of Availability:** The Trustees must give not less than three days' notice of the place at which, and the times when, the documents or information may be inspected by the public, in a principal newspaper or newspapers circulating in the district and on the Trust's website.

**12.4 Disclosure to Beneficiaries:** The Trustees must consider at reasonable intervals whether they should be making the basic trust information (as that term is defined in the Trusts Act) available to each Consumer (or their representative), having considered the requirements and factors set out in sections 51 and 53 of the Trusts Act.

**12.5 Request by Consumer:** If the Trustees receive a request for trust information (as that term is defined in the Trusts Act) from a Consumer, the Trustees must consider the requirements and factors set out in sections 52 and 53 of the Trusts Act before deciding whether to accede to or refuse the request.

## **13. VARIATION TO TRUST DEED**

---

**13.1 Variations to Deed:** This Deed may be altered or amended by the unanimous resolution of the Trustees in writing, if in the opinion of the Trustees, taking such advice as the Trustees determine, the amendment is:

- (a) Minor: of a minor, formal, administrative or technical nature (including amendments to the Schedules, which contain the administrative provisions of the Trust);

(b) Correction: to correct a manifest error, to cure any ambiguity or to correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision; or

(c) Necessary or Desirable: necessary or desirable to comply with the provisions of any law or the requirements of any statutory authority.

~~13.1~~**13.2 Variations to Deed requiring Public Consultative Procedure:** Except as permitted under clause 13.1, ~~t~~This Deed may be altered or amended only by the unanimous resolution of the Trustees in writing, provided that no amendment under this clause will be effective unless it has been subject to the Public Consultative Procedure.

~~13.2~~**13.3 Limitations to Variations:** Notwithstanding clause 13.1 and 13.2, no alteration or amendment may be made to this Deed that has the effect of limiting or restricting the obligations or powers of the Trustees under this Deed to:

(a) **Review Proposals:** review proposals and available options for the ownership of the Shares held by the Trustees, in accordance with clause 4; or

(b) **Sale of Shares:** sell, transfer or dispose of the Shares following an Ownership Review held in accordance with clause 4.

## 14. WINDING UP OF TRUST

---

### 14.1 Winding Up: If:

(a) No Assets: the Trust Fund has been fully distributed; or

(b) Resolution: a resolution to wind up the Trust has not been passed before the Determination Date,

(each a Trigger Event)

~~no longer holds any equity security or debt security issued by the Company or a resolution to wind up the Trust has not been passed by 1 January 2072, the Trustees shall~~must pass ~~the~~ resolutions requiring the ~~t~~Trust to be wound up. If the resolutions have not been passed after a Trigger Event, by the Termination Date, by 1 July 2072 or six months after the date upon which the Trust ceased to hold any debt or equity securities of the Company (whichever is the earlier) the provisions of clause 14.2 ~~shall~~will apply as if the resolution had been passed.

~~14.1~~**14.2 Surplus Property:** On the winding up of the Trust, all surplus assets after the payment of all costs, debts and liabilities must be paid, applied or appropriated to or for the benefit of the Consumers or Default Beneficiaries in accordance with clause 6.2.

## 15. INTERESTED TRUSTEES

---

**15.1 Disclosure:** A Trustee who in any way, whether directly or indirectly has a material interest in any contract or proposed contract or arrangement or dealing with the Trust (other than as a Consumer or as a member, officer, or employee of any firm, company or organisation that is a Consumer) must disclose the nature of that interest at a meeting of the Trustees and such disclosure must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and noted in an interests register maintained for the Trust.

**15.2 Interested Trustee:** A Trustee required to disclose an interest under clause 15.1 may be counted in a quorum present at a meeting but must not vote in respect of the matter in which the Trustee is interested (and if the Trustee does, the vote must not be counted), unless the interested Trustee is expressly permitted to vote by a unanimous vote of the other Trustees present, given after the disclosure of the interest.

**15.3 Materiality of Interest:** If any question arises at any meeting as to the materiality of a Trustee's interest or as to the entitlement of any Trustee to vote and the question is not resolved by the Trustee voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, the question must be referred to the chairperson of the meeting and their ruling in relation to the interested Trustee will be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interests of the Trustee concerned have not been fairly disclosed.

## **16. LIABILITY OF TRUSTEES**

---

**16.1 Liability for Loss:** No Trustee will be liable for any loss to the Trust Fund arising from any act or omission of the Trustee unless it is attributable to that Trustee's own dishonesty, gross negligence or to the wilful commission or omission of any act known by that Trustee to be a breach of trust.

**16.2 Proceedings:** No Trustee will be bound to take, or be liable for failure to take, any proceedings against any other Trustee or former Trustee for any breach or alleged breach of trust committed by that other Trustee or former Trustee.

**16.3 Receipt of Money:** Subject to clauses 10.3 and 16.1, a Trustee will be chargeable only for any money which that Trustee has received. For the purposes of this clause, a Trustee is deemed to have received money even if not actually paid to that Trustee if that money has been credited on account, reinvested, accumulated, capitalised, carried to any reserve, sinking or insurance fund, or otherwise dealt with on that Trustee's behalf.

## **17. INDEMNITY**

---

**17.1 Indemnity:** Each Trustee or former Trustee is entitled to be indemnified out of the Trust Fund against all actions, proceedings, claims, damages, losses, demands, calls, liabilities, costs (including legal costs) and expenses (together called **liabilities**) suffered or incurred by that Trustee or former Trustee in the carrying out of or omission of any function, duty or power of the Trustees under this Deed, unless those liabilities (or any of them) are due to:

(a) **Dishonesty:** that Trustee's or former Trustee's own dishonesty; or

(i) **Gross Negligence:** that Trustee's or former Trustee's gross negligence; or

(b) **Wilful Breach of Trust:** that Trustee's or former Trustee's wilful commission or omission of any act known by that Trustee or former Trustee to be a breach of trust.

**17.2 Insurance:** The Trustees may obtain insurance for the benefit of the Trustees in relation to any liabilities covered by the indemnification provided under this clause 17 and meet the cost of such insurance out of the Trust Fund.

**EXECUTED AND DELIVERED AS A DEED**

**SIGNED** by **ADRIAN PAUL DOYLE** as  
Trustee in the presence of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adrian Paul Doyle

**Witness:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full name of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of witness

**SIGNED** by **UWE KURT KROLL** as Trustee  
in the presence of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Uwe Kurt Kroll

**Witness:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full name of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of witness

**SIGNED** by **ROBERT WELSFORD  
CARTER** as Trustee in the presence of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Welsford Carter

**Witness:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full name of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of witness

**SIGNED** by **SANDRA ROSE GREENSLADE** as Trustee in the presence of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Rose Greenslade

**Witness:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full name of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of witness

**SIGNED** by **JOANNA MARY BRANS GROVE** as Trustee in the presence of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joanna Mary Bransgrove

**Witness:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full name of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation of witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of witness

## KING COUNTRY TRUST

### SCHEDULE 1

#### RULES GOVERNING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES (INCLUDING APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND ELECTIONS)

##### 1. APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL OF TRUSTEES

---

- 1.1 Number of Trustees:** The number of Trustees shall be five.
- 1.2 Increase to Minimum Number:** The Trustees may continue to act notwithstanding any vacancy, however if the number of elected Trustees is reduced below five, the remaining Trustees may appoint some other eligible person to be a Trustee for the balance of the term of office of the Trustee being replaced.
- 1.3 Error! Reference source not found.Representative Trustees:** The Trustees will endeavour to ensure that at any time the Trustees comprise the following:
- (a) Turangi Area:** at least one Trustee is elected from the Turangi area (being that part of the area currently covered by the Taupo District Council which falls within the District);
  - (b) Taumarunui Area:** at least one Trustee is elected from the Taumarunui area (being that part of the area currently covered by the Ruapehu District Council which falls within the District and lies north of a line passing through the point where the Mangaturuturu River crosses State Highway 4 to the top of Mt Ruapehu); and
  - (c) Ohakune Area:** at least one Trustee is elected from the Ohakune area (being that part of the area currently covered by the Ruapehu District Council which falls within the District and lies south of a line passing through the point where the Mangaturuturu River crosses State Highway 4 to the top of Mt. Ruapehu),  
  
(together the **Representative Areas**).
- 1.4 Initial Trustees:** The first Trustees were the persons who signed the 1993 Deed as Trustees. One of these Trustees retired from office on 1 April 1994, two more retired on 1 April 1995, while the remaining two retired on 1 April 1996. From 1 April 1996, elections must be every two years. On 1 April 1998, the Trustees appointed on 1 April 1994 and 1 April 1995 retired from office and on 1 April 2000 the Trustees appointed on 1 April 1996 retired from office.
- 1.5 Frequency of Elections:** On 1 April each second year after 2000, the elected Trustees to retire must (in addition to any under rule 2.2) be those who have been longest in office since the last election (it being acknowledged that prior terms in office are not relevant). Accordingly, each second year the number of Trustees to retire under this rule will alternate between three (as in 1998) and two (as in 2000).
- 1.6 Eligibility of Trustees:** The following persons may not hold office as a Trustee:
- (a) Bankruptcy:** a bankrupt who has not obtained a final order of discharge or whose order of discharge has been suspended for a term not yet expired, or is subject to a condition not yet fulfilled;

- (b) **Conviction:** a person who has been convicted of any offence punishable by a term of imprisonment of 2 or more years;
- (c) **Imprisonment:** a person who has been convicted of any offence punishable by imprisonment for a term of not less than two years and has been sentenced to imprisonment for that offence;
- (d) **Companies Act Order:** a person to whom an order made under section 383 of the Companies Act 1993 applies;
- (e) **Mental Health Act:** a person who is mentally disordered within the meaning of the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992; or
- (f) **Trusts Act:** a person who is disqualified from being appointed as a trustee under section 96 of the Trusts Act.

**1.7 Elected Trustee Eligibility:** In addition to the restrictions in rule 1.6, a person who is not an Elector may not seek or hold office as an elected Trustee.

## **2. TERM OF OFFICE**

---

**2.1 Term of Office:** Trustees (including the first Trustees) will (subject to the provisions of rule 2.2) hold office for a term from the date of their appointment or election until the date of their retirement in accordance with rule 1.5.

**2.2 Early Termination of Office:** A Trustee will cease to hold office if the Trustee:

- (a) **Resignation:** resigns by giving written notice to the secretary of the Trust, or if there is no secretary, to the chairperson;
- (b) **Refusal to Act:** refuses to act;
- (c) **Ineligibility:** is precluded from holding office as a Trustee under rule 1.6 or rule 1.7;
- (d) **Absent:** is absent without leave from three consecutive ordinary meetings of the Trustees; or
- (e) **Conviction:** is convicted of any indictable offence.

**2.3 Recording of Change of Trustees:** Every appointment, reappointment, retirement or cessation of any Trustee must be entered in the minute book of the Trust.

## **3. ELECTIONS**

---

**3.1 Election to Elect Two Trustees:** An election to elect two Trustees to the Trust will be conducted in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) **No Nomination from Representative Areas:** if there are no nominations from a Representative Area requiring representation, then:
  - (i) **Two or Less Candidates:** if the number of nominations for Trustee does not exceed two, the returning officer must declare the nominees elected as Trustees; and



(ii) **More than Two Candidates:** if the number of nominations for Trustee exceeds two, all persons nominated must be candidates in an election taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the two highest polling candidates elected as Trustees;

(b) **One Nomination from Representative Area and One Other Nomination:** if:

(i) **One Nomination from Representative Area:** there is only one nomination from a Representative Area and that Representative Area will not otherwise have representation by a continuing Trustee; and

(ii) **One Other Nomination:** there is only one other nomination for Trustee,

the returning officer must declare the nominees elected as Trustees;

(c) **One Nomination from Representative Area and Two or More Other Nominations:** if:

(i) **One Nomination from Representative Area:** there is only one nomination from a Representative Area and that Representative Area will not otherwise have representation by a continuing Trustee; and

(ii) **Two or More Other Nominations:** there are two or more other nominations for Trustee,

the returning officer must declare the nominee from the Representative Area elected as Trustee and an election of the remaining nominees must be taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the highest polling candidate elected as a Trustee;

(d) **Two Nominations from Representative Area and No Other Nominations:** if:

(i) **Two Nominations from Representative Area:** there are two nominations from a Representative Area, and that Representative Area will not otherwise have representation by a continuing Trustee; and

(ii) **No Other Nominations:** there are no other nominations for Trustee,

the returning officer must declare the nominees elected as Trustees;

(e) **Two or More Nominations from Representative Area and Other Nominations:** if:

(i) **Two or More Nominations from Representative Area:** there are two or more nominations for a Representative Area, and that Representative Area will not otherwise have representation by a continuing Trustee; and

(ii) **Other Nominations:** there are other nominations for Trustee,

an election must be taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the highest polling candidate for the Representative Area and the highest polling candidate from all other candidates elected as Trustees;

**(f) Nominations from Two Representative Areas:**

**(i) Two Nominees:** if there are nominations from two Representative Areas, and those two Representative Areas will not otherwise have representation by a continuing Trustee, the returning officer must declare the nominees for the Representative Areas elected as Trustees; and

**(ii) More than Two Nominees:** if more than one person is nominated for a Representative Area, or Representative Areas, an election of the nominations for that Representative Area or Representative Areas, must be taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the highest polling candidate from each Representative Area elected as Trustees; and

**(g) All Representative Areas Represented:** if all Representative Areas are represented, and more than two persons are nominated, an election must be taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the two highest polling candidates elected as Trustees. If only two persons are nominated, the returning officer must declare the nominees elected as Trustees.

**3.2 Election to Elect Three Trustees:** An election to elect three Trustees to the Trust will be conducted in accordance with the following provisions:

**(a) No Nomination from Representative Areas:** if there are no nominations for a Representative Area, then:

**(i) Three or Less Candidates:** if the number of nominations for Trustee does not exceed three, the returning officer must declare the nominees as elected Trustees; and

**(ii) More than Three Candidates:** if the number of nominations exceeds three, all persons nominated must be candidates in an election which must be taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the three highest polling candidates elected as Trustees;

**(b) One Nomination from Representative Area and Other Nominations:** if:

**(i) One Nomination from Representative Area:** there is only one nomination from a Representative Area and that Representative Area will not otherwise have representation from a continuing Trustee; and

**(ii) Other Nominations:** the number of other nominations from outside that Representative Area does not exceed two,

the returning officer must declare the nominees elected as Trustees;

**(c) Two Nominations from Representative Areas and One Other Nomination:** if:

- (i) **Two Nominations from Representative Areas:** two Representative Areas receive one nomination each, and those Representative Areas will not otherwise have representation by continuing Trustees; and
  - (ii) **One Other Nomination:** there is only one other nomination,  
the returning officer must declare the nominees elected as Trustees;
- (d) **Two or More Nominations from a Representative Area, One Nomination from a Further Representative Area and Other Nomination:** if:
- (i) **Two or More Nominations from a Representative Area:** there are two or more nominations from a Representative Area and that Representative Area will not otherwise have representation by continuing Trustees; and
  - (ii) **One Nomination from a Further Representative Area:** if there is one nomination from a further Representative Area, which will not otherwise have representation by a continuing Trustee; and
  - (iii) **Other Nominations:** if there are other nominations,  
the returning officer must declare the candidate singly nominated for a Representative Area elected as Trustee, and an election of all other nominations must be taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the highest polling candidate from the remaining Representative Area and the highest polling candidate from all candidates elected as Trustees; and
- (e) **Two or More Nominations from a Representative Area, One Nomination from a Further Representative Area and Other Nomination:** if:
- (i) **Two or More Nominations from a Representative Area(s):** there are two or more nominations for a Representative Area, or Representative Areas, and that Representative Area or Representative Areas will not otherwise have representation by continuing Trustees; and
  - (ii) **Total Nominations Exceed Three:** the total number of nominations exceed three,  
an election must be taken in accordance with this Schedule. The returning officer must declare the highest polling candidate from each of the Representative Areas, and (if required) the highest polling other candidate or candidates elected as Trustees, provided that not more than three Trustees will be elected.

**3.3 Nominations for Trustees:** No later than 30 November in each year before an election is to be held, nominations for election as a Trustee will be invited from the Consumers. Nominations must be made to the Returning Officer no later than 20 January in the year the election is being held. A retiring Trustee will be eligible for re-nomination.

**3.4 Election:** No later than 1 March in each year in which an election is held, the Trustees will arrange for an election of the Consumers to be held to elect the Trustees to replace the retiring Trustees completed using one or more voting method (as that term is defined in the Local Electoral Act 2001 and including booth, post and any form of electronic voting).

**3.5 Rules of Election:** The election must be held in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) **Eligibility to Vote:** those eligible to vote must be Consumers as at a date to be designated by the Trustees to be no later than 1 March in the year of the election;
- (b) **Roll Compilation:** on the basis of the records of the Lines Company, the Trustees must compile a roll of those entitled to vote. A person may enquire as to whether that person is on the roll. In preparing such roll, the Trustees must endeavour to ensure that each Consumer may only vote once regardless of the number of power connections that the Consumer may have;
- (c) **Appointment of Returning Officer:** the Trustees must appoint a suitable person as a returning officer for the purposes of each election;
- (d) **Number of Candidates:** if the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies to be filled, the candidate or candidates must be elected as Trustees and the public must be notified in accordance with clause 12;
- (e) **Voting Papers:** as soon as practicable but no later than 1 March in the year in which the election is to be held, the returning officer must forward:
  - (i) **Electronically:** by email or other electronic means; or
  - (ii) **By Post:** if there is no recorded email address, by post to the relevant address shown on the roll,  
  
one electronic or printed voting paper to each Consumer eligible to vote, or access to a website or other electronic address at which each Consumer may submit one voting paper, and, if forwarded by post, together with an envelope stamped and addressed to the returning officer;
- (f) **Consumer not Natural Person:** where the Consumer is not a natural person, the Consumer can appoint a natural person whose name does not appear on the roll compiled under rule 3.5(b) to exercise the Consumer's vote on its behalf;
- (g) **Close of Voting:** the returning officer must specify a date, not less than two weeks after distributing the voting papers, for the close of voting. No vote will be valid unless it is delivered to the returning officer by the date specified;
- (h) **Count of Votes:** the returning officer will make arrangements for an official count of the votes. Any candidate for election as a Trustee will be entitled to appoint a representative to attend the official count; and
- (i) **Announcement of Results:** when all the voting papers have been dealt with, the returning officer must notify the public of the result in accordance with clause 12. The results may be announced from 4.00pm on the day of the close of voting. Subject to rules 3.1 and 3.2, where there is an equality of votes between candidates, the returning officer must determine by lot the candidate to be elected.

## KING COUNTRY TRUST

### SCHEDULE 2

#### RULES GOVERNING REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES OF TRUSTEES

##### 1. REMUNERATION

---

- 1.1 Remuneration:** The Trustees will be entitled, in each Financial Year, to remuneration for their services as Trustees, as is reasonable having regard to their duties and responsibilities.
- 1.2 Expenses:** The Trustee will be entitled to be indemnified by and reimbursed for any expenses incurred by them in the exercise of their powers and duties under this Deed.
- 1.3 Payments to be made from Trust Funds:** The payments of remuneration and expenses to the Trustees pursuant to rule 1.1 or rule 1.2 will be paid out of the Trust Fund.

## KING COUNTRY TRUST

### SCHEDULE 3

#### RULES GOVERNING ADMINISTRATION AND MEETINGS OF TRUSTEES

##### 1. QUORUM

---

- 1.1 **Quorum:** A quorum for meetings of the Trustees will be three Trustees.
- 1.2 **Number of Trustees Less Than Quorum:** If for any reason the number of Trustees holding office is less than three, the quorum will be the number of Trustees then holding office.

##### 2. MEETINGS

---

- 2.1 **Ordinary Meetings:** The Trustees will meet at such intervals as they deem appropriate to the conduct of the affairs of the Trust.
- 2.2 **Special Meetings:** Three Trustees may at any time summon a special meeting for any reason deemed by them to justify a meeting.
- 2.3 **Rescission or Variation of Resolutions:** The Trustees may from time to time rescind or vary any resolution of the Trustees at any ordinary or special meeting.

##### 3. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

---

- 3.1 **Notice:** Five Working Days' notice in writing of any meeting must be delivered or emailed to each Trustee:
- (a) **Ordinary Meeting:** by the secretary (or other person acting under the direction of the Trustees); or
  - (b) **Special Meeting:** in the case of a special meeting, by or under the direction of the persons summoning it.
- 3.2 **Notice for Adjourned Meetings:** No notice will be necessary for adjourned meetings except to Trustees not present when the meeting was adjourned.
- 3.3 **Content of Notice:** Every notice of meeting must state the place, day, and time of the meeting and every notice of a special meeting must state the matters to be discussed at that meeting.
- 3.4 **Notice Waived:** Notice of any general or special meeting may be shortened or waived, if all the Trustees who are in New Zealand consent in writing.

##### 4. CHAIRPERSON

---

- 4.1 **Chairperson:** The Trustees may elect a chairperson at their meetings and determine the period for which the chairperson is to hold office.
- 4.2 **Chair Meetings:** The chairperson (or in the absence of the chairperson, a Trustee elected by the meeting) will take the chair at all meetings of the Trustees.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

---

**5.1 Quorum Not Present:** If a quorum is not present within thirty minutes after the time appointed for any meeting, the Trustee or Trustees present may adjourn the meeting.

**5.2 Adjournment by Resolution:** Any meeting may be adjourned by the chairperson upon the adoption of a resolution for its adjournment.

## 6. COMMITTEES

---

**6.1 Establishment of Committees:** The Trustees may, from time to time, appoint any one or more Trustees to be a committee for:

(a) **Inquiry:** making any inquiry;

(b) **Managing Business:** managing or transacting any business of the Trust;

(c) **Trust Funds:** the investment and management of the Trust Funds; or

(d) **Duties of Trust:** the performance of any duty or function which in the opinion of the Trustee will further the purposes and objects of the Trust.

**6.2 Regulation of Committees:** Subject to these rules and to any directions from time to time given by the Trustees, every committee may regulate its own procedure so that a quorum at any meeting of the committee will comprise a majority of its members for the time being.

## 7. MINUTES

---

**7.1 Minute Book:** The Trustees and all proceedings of the Trustees must be entered in the Minute Book.

**7.2 Signed by Chairperson:** Any minute signed by the chairperson of a meeting or by the chairperson of the next succeeding meeting will be evidence of the proceedings.

**7.3 Meeting Duly Convened:** Where minutes have been made in accordance with the provisions of this rule at any meeting of Trustees then, until the contrary is proved, the meeting will be deemed duly held and convened and all proceedings at that meeting to have been duly convened.

## 8. RESOLUTIONS IN WRITING

---

A written resolution, signed by all the Trustees, or by all the members of a committee, will be as effective as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Trustees or of a meeting of a committee as the case may be. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in like form, each signed by one or more of the Trustees or members of the committee, as the case may be.

## 9. VIRTUAL MEETINGS

---

**9.1 Virtual Meetings:** For the purposes of these rules, the contemporaneous linking together of some or all of the Trustees by telephone, videoconferencing, the internet or other electronic means will constitute a virtual meeting of the Trustees and the provisions in

these rules as to meetings of the Trustees will apply to such virtual meetings provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) **Access to Technology:** a virtual meeting may only be held if all Trustees have reasonable access to the technology that will enable them to participate;
- (b) **Entitled to Notice:** each Trustee will be entitled to notice of the virtual meeting and to be linked together for the purposes of such meeting;
- (c) **Taking Part:** each of the Trustees taking part in the virtual meeting must be able to hear or view and hear all of the communications from the other Trustees taking part during the whole of the meeting;
- (d) **Acknowledge Presence:** at the commencement and conclusion of the virtual meeting, each Trustee must acknowledge his or her presence for the purpose of the meeting to all the others taking part;
- (e) **Withdrawing from Meeting:** a Trustee may not leave the meeting unless that Trustee has previously obtained the express consent of the chairperson of the meeting to do so;
- (f) **Presumed Presence:** a Trustee will be conclusively presumed to have been present and to have formed part of the quorum of such meeting unless having obtained the express consent of the chairperson to leave the meeting; and
- (g) **Minutes:** a minute of the proceedings at such virtual meeting will be sufficient evidence of such proceedings and of the observance of all necessary formalities if certified as a correct minute by the chairperson of the meeting and by the secretary or person acting secretarially.

## 10. VALIDITY OF PROCEEDINGS

---

**10.1 Validity of Proceedings:** All acts done by any meeting of Trustees (including virtual meetings), committee of Trustees or by any person acting as a Trustee will be as valid and effectual as if that Trustee or those Trustees:

- (a) **Duly Appointed:** had been duly appointed; and
- (b) **Qualified:** were qualified to hold office as Trustee;

even if it is later discovered that:

- (c) **Defect in Appointment:** there was some defect in the appointment of any of the Trustees; or
- (d) **Trustee Disqualified:** any of the Trustees were for any reason disqualified from holding office as Trustee.

## 11. EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

---

All documents required to be executed by the Trustees shall be deemed to be validly executed and binding on the Trust if these documents have been entered into and executed by the authority of the Trustees previously given and signed by at least two Trustees and countersigned by the secretary or by another Trustee or any other person approved by the Trustees for the purpose.



## 12. DELEGATION BY TRUSTEES

---

Any Trustee may, in any of the circumstances permitted by section 70 of the Trusts Act, exercise the powers under that section of delegating to any person, who has been approved by the other Trustees, during any period for which that Trustee may be absent from New Zealand or incapable of performing his or her duties as a Trustee, all or any trusts powers authorities and discretions vested in him or her as a Trustee of the Trust.

### ~~AMENDMENTS~~

---

~~13.1 The Rules set forth in rules 2.1, 2.2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 of Schedule 3 being administrative provisions may be rescinded, amended or added to by the unanimous resolution of the Trustees.~~

~~13.1 No such resolution shall be effective unless notice thereof shall have been given in the notice convening the meeting and no such rescission, amendment or addition shall conflict with any of the provisions of the Deed or the Act.~~

## KING COUNTRY TRUST

### SCHEDULE 4

#### PUBLIC CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURE

In respect of any provision of this Deed which requires the Trustees to implement a Public Consultative Procedure, the Trustees must:

- (a) **Proposal to Trustees:** place notice of the proposal before a meeting of the Trustees;
- (b) **Notice to Public:** give notice of the proposal to the public in accordance with clause 12 of the Deed;
- (c) **Submission Period:** in every notice given under paragraph (b) of this Schedule, specify a period within which persons interested in the proposal may make submissions on the proposal to the Trustees;
- (d) **Reasonable Opportunity to be Heard:** ensure that any person who makes written submissions on the proposal within the period specified in the notice under paragraph (b) of this Schedule is given a reasonable opportunity to be heard by the Trustees;
- (e) **Meetings Open to Public:** ensure that every meeting at which submissions are heard or at which the Trustees deliberate on the proposal are open to the public;
- (f) **Written Submissions Available to Public:** make all written submissions on the proposal available to the public; and
- (g) **Final Decision:** ensure that the final decision in relation to the proposal is made at a meeting of the Trustees which is open to the public.

The period specified pursuant to paragraph (c) above must not be less than one month and no more than three months.