

**From:** [Will Rutherford](#)  
**To:** [Mailroom Mailbox](#)  
**Cc:** [Daniel Minhinnick](#)  
**Subject:** Submission on the Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, 30 April 2015 1:36:35 p.m.  
**Attachments:** [Vector submission on the Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan.pdf](#)

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Good afternoon

Please find **attached** Vector Limited's submission on the Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Kind regards

**Will Rutherford**

GRADUATE

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**Russell McVeagh**

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## SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED CANTERBURY AIR REGIONAL PLAN

**To:** Canterbury Regional Council ("**Council**")

**Name:** Vector Limited ("**Vector**")

### 1. INTRODUCTION TO VECTOR

- 1.1 Vector is New Zealand's leading multi-network infrastructure company, owning, operating and managing a unique portfolio of energy and fibre optic infrastructure networks. Vector's assets perform a key role in delivering energy and communication services to more than one million homes and businesses across New Zealand, and many tens of thousands of homes and businesses in the Canterbury region.
- 1.2 Vector regularly relies on the Council's regional planning framework as both an applicant and a submitter on resource consent applications and plan changes, and makes this submission on the Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan ("**Proposed Plan**") in that capacity. The continued operation and development of Vector's network utility infrastructure is essential if the Council is to meet its cultural, social, environmental and economic objectives.
- 1.3 A key focus of Vector's activities in the Canterbury region is its gas retail brand, OnGas Limited ("**OnGas**"). OnGas distributes and sells LPG, propane and butane to residential, industrial, commercial and automotive markets throughout New Zealand. Vectors owns and operates OnGas sites (together, "**Sites**") in the Canterbury region which are affected by the provisions of the Proposed Plan.
- 1.4 Vector wishes to ensure that the Proposed Plan appropriately recognises and provides for its assets and operations in the Canterbury region, in particular its OnGas facilities, so that Vector is able to build, operate and maintain the effective, efficient, resilient and affordable infrastructure that is required to service the Canterbury region.

### 2. SCOPE AND NATURE OF SUBMISSION

- 2.1 This submission relates to the Proposed Plan in its entirety. Subject to the concerns set out below, Vector is generally supportive of the provisions of the Proposed Plan as notified by the Council on 28 February 2015.
- 2.2 This submission addresses Vector's concerns with the provisions of the Proposed Plan, specifically relating to the retention of a permitted activity status for LPG-related activities at OnGas sites.

### 3. GENERAL REASONS FOR SUBMISSION

- 3.1 The amendments sought by Vector are required so as to ensure that the Proposed Plan:
- (a) gives effect to the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement;

- (b) promotes the sustainable management of resources, achieves the purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991 ("**RMA**") and is not contrary to Part 2 and other provisions of the RMA;
- (c) enables the social, economic and cultural well-being of the Canterbury region;
- (d) meets the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations, including by sustaining the potential of the significant physical resource represented by Vector's assets in Canterbury for the future; and
- (e) represents the most appropriate means of exercising the Council's functions, having regard to the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions relative to other means, and discharges the Council's duty under section 32 of the RMA.

#### **4. SPECIFIC REASONS FOR SUBMISSION**

- 4.1 Without limiting the generality of the above, the specific reasons for Vector's submission are set out below.

##### **Clarification regarding a permitted activity status for Vector's OnGas operations**

- 4.2 Vector's primary concern is to ensure that its operations at its OnGas sites in the Canterbury Region remain classified as permitted activities.
- 4.3 Vector's OnGas operations involve the storage and sale of LPG at various retailers throughout Canterbury including service stations, hardware stores and convenience stores. While it appears that the storage of LPG is intended to be covered by Rule 7.34 as a permitted activity, there is uncertainty as to whether LPG is classified as a petroleum product, and hence uncertainty as to the activity status of its operations.
- 4.4 Rule 7.34 relates to the discharge of contaminants into air from the storage or transfer of petroleum products, including vapour ventilation and displacement. It sets out that the discharge of contaminants into air from the storage or transfer of petroleum products is generally a permitted activity, subject to a number of conditions.
- 4.5 As LPG is not expressly included within the definition of petroleum products, Vector's key concern is that as currently drafted there is a risk that Rule 7.34 does not provide for Vector's operations at its OnGas sites as permitted activities. Vector seeks confirmation (through a minor amendment to Rule 7.34) that discharges from the storage of LPG are covered by Rule 7.34 so as to ensure that Vector's activities remain permitted.

#### **5. RELIEF**

- 5.1 Vector seeks the following relief (or alternative relief to Vector's satisfaction to address Vector's concerns above):

- (a) Rule 7.34 be amended as follows to clarify that the storage of LPG is a permitted activity:

- 7.34 The discharge of contaminants into air from the storage or transfer of petroleum products (including LPG), including vapour ventilation and displacement, is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:
1. The discharge does not cause a noxious or dangerous effect; and
  2. If there is a discharge of odour or dust beyond the boundary of the property of origin, an odour and/or dust management plan prepared in accordance with Schedule 2 must be held and implemented by the person responsible for the discharge into air; and
  3. The odour and/or dust management plan is supplied to the CRC on request.

- (b) That the proposed provisions are otherwise retained as notified in the Proposed Plan.
- (c) Such further or other consequential relief, to the identified provisions or to other provisions under the Proposed Plan, as may be necessary to give full effect to the relief sought in this submission.

5.2 Vector could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

5.3 Vector wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

**Signature:** **VECTOR LIMITED** by its solicitors and authorised agents  
Russell McVeagh:



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B J Matheson

**Date:** 30 April 2015

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