

BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COURT

ENV-2026-AKL-[....]

AT AUCKLAND

I MUA I TE KOOTI TAIAO

IN THE MATTER

of an appeal under clause 14
of Schedule 1 of the Resource
Management Act 1991
(RMA)

BETWEEN

Top Energy Limited

Appellant

AND

Far North District Council

Respondent

**NOTICE OF WISH TO BE A PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS BY THE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CONSERVATION**

Dated: 1 September 2026

Department of Conservation

Counsel acting: K Anton

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Telephone: 027 427 5900

Notice of person's wish to be a party to proceedings

Section 274 Resource Management Act 1991

To: The Registrar
Environment Court
AUCKLAND

1. The Director-General of Conservation ("Director General") wishes to be a party to the following proceedings:
 - 1.1. Top Energy Limited v Far North District Council, an appeal on the proposed Far North District Plan (the Plan).
2. The Director General made submissions and further submissions on the Plan.
3. The Director General has an interest greater than the interest the general public has, specifically regarding conservation values and the implementation of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS).
4. The Director General is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).
5. The Director General is interested in the part of the appeal that seeks a new restricted discretionary rule for large scale solar renewable electricity generation activity in all zones (REG-RX, see Top Energy Ltd appeal notice, Appendix A, page 15).
6. The Director-General is interested in the matters of discretion in new REG-RX sought, and in particular that those matters include consideration of indigenous biodiversity and ecosystems.
7. The Director General **conditionally opposes** the relief sought because indigenous biodiversity and ecosystems are unable to be considered in the proposed new rule.

8. Changes sought by the Appellant will reduce environmental protections compared to the Far North District Council's decision and are not consistent with the provisions of the NZCPS or section 6(c) of the RMA.
9. The Director General agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



Katherine Anton

Counsel for the Director General of Conservation

1 September 2026

Address for service of person wishing to be a party:

Director-General of Conservation

Planning Shared Services
Department of Conservation
Private Bag 3072
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Contact persons

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