## **NU - Network Utilities**

The Wairarapa relies on *network utilities*, including electricity transmission and distribution, radio-communications, telecommunications, meteorological facilities, and water and wastewater reticulation. A *network utility* operator, as defined by the Act, or other operators may provide these utilities.

Transport related network utilities including the road and rail network are not addressed in this chapter. They are covered by the Transport Chapter.

*Network utilities* are critical for the ongoing functioning of the Wairarapa. They contribute significantly to the community's health and safety, as well as to its economic, environmental, and social wellbeing. The benefits of *network utilities* to the efficient functioning of modern society are therefore substantial.

Some *network utilities* have the potential to have adverse effects on the environment. These effects may result from activities involved in establishing the facility, be generated by the facility itself, or be associated with the maintenance and operation of the facility.

Potential adverse effects can include:

- the visual impacts of structures;
- risks to public health and safety; and
- noise and odour.

Likewise, incompatible land uses adjacent to network utilities can have an adverse effect on the ongoing function, operation and development of network utilities.

In general, the effects of *network utilities* can be managed through development and performance standards, whether through Codes of Practice or regulatory controls.

The provisions within this chapter apply on a district-wide basis. The rules in the zone chapters do not apply to *network utilities* unless specifically stated within a rule or standard in this chapter. The objectives policies, and rules in district-wide matters chapters to apply to network utilities.

#### Relationship with other regulations

Additional regulatory requirements, separate to the District Plan, are also relevant *to network utilities*, including:

- 1. The Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities) Regulations 2009 (NESETA);
- 2. The Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Regulations 2016 (NESTF);
- 3. The National Code of Practice for Utility Operators' Access to Transport Corridors;

Page 1 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

Proposed Wairarapa Combined District Plan (Decisions Version) NU – Network Utilities

- The New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34:2001); and
- 5. Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003.

In the case of conflict with any provision of this plan and any national environmental standard (including the NESETA or the NESTF), under Section 43B of the Act the provisions of the national environmental standards will prevail.

# **Objectives**

#### NU-O1 Benefits of *network utilities*

The benefits of effective, efficient, resilient, and safe *network utilities* are recognised and provided for.

#### NU-O2 Adverse effects of *network utilities*

The adverse effects of *network utilities* on the environment are avoided, remedied, or mitigated, while recognising:

- a. the functional need or operational need of network utilities; and
- b. that positive effects of *network utilities* may be realised locally, regionally, or nationally.

#### NU-O3 Adverse effects on *network utilities*

The safe function and operation of *network utilities* is protected from the adverse effects, including *reverse sensitivity* effects, of incompatible subdivision, use, and development.

#### NU-O4 National Grid

Subdivision, use, and development is managed to avoid sensitive activities and reverse sensitivity effects on the *National Grid* and ensure that the operation, maintenance, repair, upgrading, and development of the *National Grid* is not compromised.

Page 2 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

## **Policies**

### NU-P1 Recognising the benefits of *network utilities*

Recognise the benefits of *network utilities* by:

- a. enabling the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, minor upgrading or removal of existing *network utilities* throughout the district;
- b. enabling investigation, monitoring, and navigation activities associated with *network utility* operations throughout the district;
- c. providing for upgrades that are not minor upgrades to, and the development of new, *network utilities*; and
- d. providing for the functions and responsibilities of *network utilities* as lifeline utilities during an emergency.

# NU-P2 Network utilities, land use, subdivision, development, and urban growth

Encourage the coordination of *network utilities* planning and delivery with land use, subdivision, development, and urban growth so that future land use and *network utilities* are integrated, safe, efficient, and aligned.

# NU-P3 Technological advances

Recognise the benefits of new technologies for *network utilities* by providing for new technologies that:

- a. improve access to, and efficient use of, networks and services;
- b. allow for the re-use of redundant services and *structures*;
- c. increase resilience, safety, or reliability of networks and services;
- d. result in environmental benefits and enhancements; or
- e. promote environmentally sustainable outcomes including green *infrastructure* and the increased the utilisation of renewable resources.

# NU-P4 Managing adverse effects of *network utilities*

Manage the adverse effects of *network utilities*, including effects on natural and physical resources, amenity values, *sensitive activities*, and the health, safety, and wellbeing of people and communities by:

a. controlling the *height*, bulk, and location of *network utilities*, where practicable;

Page 3 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

- requiring compliance with recognised standards or guidelines for the potential adverse effects of noise, vibration, radiofrequency fields, and electric and magnetic fields;
- c. requiring the undergrounding of new *network utilities* in urban areas, other than in General Industrial Zone or for customer connections to existing overhead networks, unless there are technological or operational constraints, or natural or physical features that make underground placement impractical or unreasonable;
- d. encouraging network utility operators to consider the undergrounding of new and existing *network utilities* in all other areas where practicable;
- e. mitigating adverse visual effects through landscaping and/or the use of recessive colours and finishes, where practicable; and
- f. requiring *network utilities* to adopt a design which integrates network utilities within the site, and recognises the character and amenity values of the surrounding area to the extent practicable taking into account the functional or operational need of the work or facility.

#### NU-P5 Consideration of adverse effects of *network utilities*

Ensure that *network utilities* avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects on the environment, while recognising the *functional need* or *operational need* of the *network utility*, and having regard to:

- a. the extent to which adverse effects have been addressed through site, route, or method selection and/or the extent to which the *network utility* is constrained by *functional need* or *operational need*;
- b. the necessity of the *network utility*, including:
  - i. the need to quickly repair and restore disrupted services; and
  - ii. the impact of not operating, repairing, maintaining, *upgrading*, removing, or developing the *network utility*;
- c. the time, duration, or frequency of adverse effects;
- d. the location of existing *network utilities*, including:
  - i. the complexity and connectedness of the networks and services; and
  - ii. the potential for co-location and shared use of network utility corridors; and
- e. anticipated outcomes for the receiving environment, including the role, function, and predominant planned character of the underlying zone.

Page 4 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

#### NU-P6 Adverse effects of the National Grid

Provide for the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, upgrade and development of the National Grid where any adverse effects are appropriately managed by:

- a. enabling the ongoing operation, maintenance, repair, replacement and minor upgrading of existing National Grid assets;
- b. providing for new, or upgrades that are more than minor to, the National Grid while:
  - i. in urban environments, the transmission system should minimise adverse effects on urban amenity and avoid adverse effects on town centres, areas of high recreation value and existing sensitive activities;
  - ii. where (i) does not apply, in all environments seeking to avoid adverse effects on the characteristics and values of the following;
  - i. significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna;
    - 1. outstanding natural features and landscapes;
    - 2. areas of outstanding, very high and high natural character;
    - 3. significant waterbodies;
    - 4. heritage buildings or items;
    - 5. sites and areas of significance to Māori;
    - 6. special amenity landscapes; and
    - 7. in the coastal environment, recognising that there will be areas where avoidance of adverse effects is required to protect the special values and characteristics of those areas;
- c. where it is not practicable to avoid adverse effects on the characteristics and values of the areas listed in (b), remedy or mitigate adverse effects having regard to:
  - the operational needs or functional needs of the National Grid and the extent to which those requirements constrain measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects;
  - ii. the extent to which significant adverse effects are avoided;
  - iii. the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by route, site and method selection;
  - iv. for upgrades, the extent to which existing adverse effects have been reduced as part of any substantial upgrade;
  - v. the extent to which adverse effects on urban amenity have been minimised;
  - vi. the appropriateness of offsetting of, or compensated for, any residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values, where offered; and
- d. outside of the areas listed in (b), avoiding, remedying, or mitigating other adverse effects, having regard to the matters in (c).
- e. In the event of conflict between NU-P6 and other policies in the District Plan, NU-P6 prevails over those policies.

Page 5 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

NU-P7
-------

Manage subdivision, use, and development near the National Grid to:

- a. avoid the establishment or expansion of sensitive activities;
- b. ensure that the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, repair, *upgrading*, removal, and development of the *National Grid* is not compromised; and
- c. ensure that reverse sensitivity effects on the National Grid are avoided.

# Rules

NU-R1		Operation, maintenance, repair, and removal of existing aboveground and underground network utilities
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b> Where:
		All aboveground structures that are no longer required for network utility purposes are removed within two years of being replaced or becoming redundant;
		b. Compliance is achieved with NU-S4 - NU-S7.
	All zones	Activity status: Restricted discretionary     Where:
		a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R1(1).
		Matters of discretion:
		<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits derived from, the network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
		The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network     Utilities Standards.
		The location of <i>network utilities</i> , including the need for connections to existing networks and services.
NU-R2		New underground <i>network utilities</i> (including <i>customer</i> connection lines) and <i>upgrading</i> of existing underground network utilities, not otherwise provided for in this chapter
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b>
		Where:
		a. Compliance is achieved with:
		i. NU-S4; and

Page 6 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

# Proposed Wairarapa Combined District Plan (Decisions Version) NU – Network Utilities

	ii. NU-S5.
All zones	2. Activity status: Non-complying
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R2(1)(a).

NU-R3		Upgrade of existing above ground network utilities
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b> Where:
		<ul> <li>a. The realignment, relocation, or replacement of a line, pipe, pole, tower, conductor, switch, transformer, or ancillary structure is within 5m of the existing alignment or location;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>i. a pole is not replaced with a tower;</li> <li>ii. a replacement pole, tower, does not exceed the height of the replaced pole or tower by the greater of:</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>a) more than 15%; or</li> <li>b) the maximum structure height for the underlying zone set out in NU-S1;</li> </ul>
		iii. the diameter or width of a replacement <i>pole</i> :
		<ul> <li>a) does not exceed twice that of the replaced <i>pole</i> at its widest point; or</li> <li>b) where a single <i>pole</i> is replaced with a pi <i>pole</i>, the width of the pi <i>pole</i> structure must not exceed three times the width of the replaced <i>pole</i> at its widest point;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>iv. a replacement tower's footprint does not exceed the width of the tower by more than 25%;</li> <li>v. there are no additional towers;</li> <li>vi. an additional pole, up to a maximum of two poles, is necessary to achieve the conductor clearances required by NZECP 34:2001; and</li> <li>vii. all structures that are no longer required for network utility purposes are removed within two years of being replaced or becoming redundant; or</li> </ul>
		b. The realignment, relocation, or replacement of any other
		network utility;
		<ul> <li>i. all structures that are no longer required for network utility purposes are removed within two years of being replaced or becoming redundant; and</li> <li>ii. compliance is achieved with all Network Utilities Standards.</li> </ul>

Page 7 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

All zones	2. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R3(1), NU-S1, or NU-S2.  Matters of discretion:
	<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits derived from, the network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The bulk, height, location, and design of the network utility, including any associated buildings or structures.</li></ol>
	<ol><li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li></ol>
	4. Site reinstatement.
	5. The duration, timing, and frequency of adverse effects.
	<ol><li>The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.</li></ol>
	<ol> <li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>
	9. The local, regional and national benefits of network utilities.
All zones	3. Activity status: <b>Non-complying</b>
	Where:
	b. Compliance is not achieved with NU-S4 or NU-S5.

NU-R4		Aboveground customer connection lines to existing above ground network utilities
	Residential and Commercial	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b> Where:  On The connection does not include a new tower:
	Zones	<ul> <li>a. The connection does not include a new tower;</li> <li>b. The connection does not exceed three additional <i>poles</i>; and</li> <li>c. Compliance is achieved with Network Utilities Standard NU-S1, NU-S4 and NU-S5.</li> </ul>
	All other zones	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b> Where:

Page 8 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

	<ul> <li>a. Compliance is achieved with Network Utilities Standard NU-S1, NU-S4 and NU-S5.</li> </ul>
All zones	3. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R4(1) or (2).
	Matters of discretion:
	<ol> <li>The purpose, necessity, and location of the aboveground customer connection line.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The potential adverse amenity effects of the aboveground connection, including impacts on the amenity values of the locality, and any contribution to cumulative adverse effects.</li></ol>
	<ol><li>The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.</li></ol>
	<ol> <li>The location of `, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>
All zones	4. Activity status: Non-complying
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-S4 or NU-S5.

NU-R5		Temporary network utilities
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b> Where:
		<ul> <li>The temporary <i>network utility</i> operates for a maximum of 12 months;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>All temporary network utilities and associated buildings and structures are removed from the site on completion of the works; and</li> </ul>
		<ul><li>c. Compliance is achieved with Network Utilities Standards NU- S4, NU-S5, NU-S6, and NU-S7.</li></ul>
	All zones	Activity status: Restricted discretionary  Where:     a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R5(1).  Matters of discretion:

Page 9 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

	1.	The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the temporary network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.
	2.	The bulk, <i>height</i> , location, and design of the <i>network utility</i> , including any associated <i>buildings</i> or <i>structures</i> .
	3.	The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.
	4.	The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.
	5.	The necessity of the temporary network utility.
	6.	The time, duration, or frequency of adverse effects.
	7.	The location of <i>network utilities</i> , including the need for connections to existing networks and services.
	8.	Effects on areas of <i>outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation</i> , historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.
All zones	3. Acti	vity status: Non-complying
	Where	:
	a.	Compliance is not achieved with NU-S4 or NU-S5.

NU-R6		Substations (including switching stations) not enclosed by a building
	All zones	1. Activity status: Permitted  Where:  a. The maximum building and structure height is:  i. 2.5m; or  ii. complies with NU-S2.  b. The maximum area of the substation is:  i. 20m² in Residential Zones; or  ii. 30m² in all other Zones.  c. When located within or on a site adjacent to the General Residential Zone, the substation are set back from site
		boundaries to comply with the <i>height in relation to boundary</i> standard for the General Residential Zone; and  d. Compliance is achieved with:  i. NU-S4; and ii. NU-S5.

Page 10 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

A II	O Astritus tatus Destricted discontinuous
All zones	2. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R6(1).
	Matters of discretion:
	<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>The bulk, height, location, and design of the network utility, including any associated buildings or structures.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse visual amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated, including:</li></ol>
	<ul> <li>i. any innovative design that integrates the network utility within the site, existing built form and/or landscape in a way that assists to maintain the character and amenity of the surrounding area; and</li> <li>ii. whether the use of landscaping and/or recessive colours and finishes can assist to mitigate any adverse effects.</li> </ul>
	<ol> <li>Whether the works may result in public health and/or safety risks.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The effects of non-compliance with any relevant rule or standard.</li></ol>
	<ol><li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li></ol>
	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>
	8. The local, regional and national benefits of network utilities

NU-R7		New network utilities in existing buildings
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b> Where:  a. Compliance is achieved with:
		i. NU-S4; and ii. NU-S5.
	All zones	Activity status: Non-complying     Where:     a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R7(1).

Page 11 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

N	IU-R8	Navigational aids, sensing, and environmental monitoring equipment (including air quality and meteorological)
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b>
		Where:
		a. Compliance is achieved with:
		i. NU-S4; and ii. NU-S5.
	All zones	2. Activity status: Non-complying
		Where:
		a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R8(1).

NU-R9		Overhead lines and associated support structures including lines that convey electricity
	Rural Zones, Māori Purpose Zone and General Industrial Zone	<ol> <li>Activity status: Permitted</li> <li>Where:         <ul> <li>a. Compliance is achieved with Network Utilities Standards NU-S1, NU-S4, NU-S5, NU-S6 and NU-S7.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
	Rural Zones, Māori Purpose Zone and General	2. Activity status: <b>Restricted discretionary</b> Where:  a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R9(1).  Watters of discretion:
	Industrial Zone	<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> <li>The effects of non-compliance with any Network Utilities Standards.</li> </ol>
		<ol> <li>The bulk, height, location, and design of the network utility, including any associated buildings or structures.</li> <li>The time, duration, or frequency of adverse effects.</li> <li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li> </ol>
		6. The extent to which adverse effects have been addressed through site, and route or method selection.

Page 12 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>
	8. The local, regional and national benefits of network utilities.
All other	3. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
zones	Where:
	a. Compliance is achieved with:
	i. NU-S4; and ii. NU-S5.
	Matters of discretion:
	<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the temporary network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>The bulk, height, location, and design of the network utility, including any associated buildings or structures.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>The extent to which the network utility may adversely impact on existing land uses.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>Compliance with recognised standards or guidelines for the potential adverse effects of noise, vibration, radiofrequency fields, and electric and magnetic fields.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The extent to which adverse effects have been addressed through site, and route or method selection.</li></ol>
	7. The necessity of the <i>network utility</i> .
	Whether the works may result in public health and/or safety risks.
	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of significant natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>
	10. The local, regional and national benefits of network utilities.
All other	4. Activity status: <b>Discretionary</b>
zones	Where:
	a. Compliance is achieved with:
	iii. NU-S4; and iv. NU-S5.
	b. Compliance is not achieved with one or more of the other network utility standards.

Page 13 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

Proposed Wairarapa Combined District Plan (Decisions Version) NU – Network Utilities

All zones	5. Activity status: Non-complying
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R9(4).

N	U-R10	Communications kiosk or minor utility structures and cabinets, and electric vehicle charging stations
	All zones	Activity status: Permitted
		Where:
		a. The structure does not exceed:
		<ul> <li>i. A height of 3.5m and an area of 1.5m<sup>2</sup>; or</li> <li>ii. A height of 2.2m and an area of 6.25m<sup>2</sup>; and</li> </ul>
		b. Compliance is achieved with:
		i. NU-S4; and ii. NU-S5.
		Note: For the purpose of this rule, electric vehicle charging station installers and/ or operators do not need to be a Network Utility Operator.
	All zones	2. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
		Where:
		a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R10(1)(a).
		Matters of discretion:
		<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the activity, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
		The bulk, height, location, and design of the <i>network utility</i> , including any associated buildings or structures.
		<ol><li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li></ol>
		The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.
		<ol><li>The location of the activity, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li></ol>
		<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>

Page 14 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

Proposed Wairarapa Combined District Plan (Decisions Version) NU – Network Utilities

All zones	3. Activity status: Non-complying
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-S4 or NU-S5.

NU-R11		Telecommunications or radiocommunication activities (not otherwise provided for by another rule in this chapter and not regulated in the NESTF)
	Residential	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b>
	zones	Where:
		a. All poles and antenna (except those located on the road reserve) shall not project above a 45° height in relation to boundary plane from points 3m above the site boundary when the adjoining property is zoned Residential (but not a road boundary);
		b. A panel <i>antenna</i> :
		i. does not exceed a width of 0.7m; and
		ii. when in a road reserve, fits within an envelope of 3.5m in length and 0.7m in width;
		c. A dish <i>antenna</i> does not exceed a diameter of 1.2m;
		d. Omni directional 'whip' or dipole <i>antenna</i> do not exceed:
		<ul><li>i. 1.6m in vertical length;</li><li>ii. 60mm in diameter; and</li><li>iii. 1.5m in horizontal length;</li></ul>
		e. A headframe does not exceed 2.5m in diameter:
		f. For antenna attached to a building, the lowest point at which the antenna is attached to the building must be at least 15 m above the ground and the antenna does not exceed a height of 5m above the point of attachment to the building;
		g. Other <i>network utility buildings</i> or <i>structures</i> do not exceed a footprint of 2m² or a height of 2m; and
		h. Compliance is achieved with all Network Utilities Standards NU-S1, NU-S4, NU-S5, NU-S6 and NU-S7.
	All other	2. Activity status: <b>Permitted</b>
	zones	Where:
		a. All poles and antenna (except those located on the road reserve) shall not project above a 45° height in relation to

Page 15 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

boundary plane from points 3m above the site boundary when the adjoining property is zoned Residential (but not a road boundary);

- b. A panel antenna:
  - i. does not exceed a width of 0.7m; and
  - ii. when in a road reserve, fits within an envelope of 3.5m in length and 0.7m in width;
- c. A dish antenna does not exceed a diameter of 1.2m;
- d. Omni directional 'whip' or dipole antenna do not exceed:
  - i. 1.6m in vertical length;
  - ii. 60mm in diameter; and
  - iii. 1.5m in horizontal length;
- e. A headframe does not exceed 6m in diameter;

For antenna attached to a building, the antenna does not exceed height of 5m above the point of attachment to the building;

- f. Other network utility buildings or structures do not exceed a footprint of 5m<sup>2</sup> and a height of 2.5m; and
- g. Compliance is achieved with all relevant Network Utilities Standards.

#### All zones

#### 3. Activity status: Restricted discretionary

#### Where:

- a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R11(1); and
- b. Compliance is achieved with:
  - i. NU-S4; and
  - ii. NU-S5.

#### Matters of discretion:

- 1. The *functional need* or *operational need* of, and benefits from, the *network utility*, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.
- 2. The bulk, *height*, location, and design of the *network utility*, including any associated *buildings* or *structures*.
- 3. The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.

Page 16 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

	The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.
	<ol><li>Whether the works may result in public health and/or safety risks.</li></ol>
	<ol><li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li></ol>
	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>
All zones	4. Activity status: <b>Non-complying</b>
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-S4 or NU-S5.

NU-R12		Telecommunications <i>poles</i> and new <i>antennas</i> (regulated by the NESTF that do not meet the permitted activity standards in Regulations 27, 29, 31, 33, or 35 of the NESTF)	
	All zones	Activity status: Controlled	
		Where:	
		a. For panel antenna: a width of 0.9m is not exceeded;	
		b. For dish <i>antenna</i> located in the road reserve: the <i>antenna</i> does not exceed a diameter of:	
		<ul><li>i. 0.6m in a residential zone; or</li><li>ii. 0.9m in all other zones;</li></ul>	
		c. For dish <i>antenna</i> not located in the road reserve: the <i>antenna</i> does not exceed a diameter of:	
		<ul><li>i. 0.6m in a residential zone; or</li><li>ii. 2m in all other zones; and</li></ul>	
		<ul> <li>d. Compliance is achieved with the <i>structure height</i> standards in NU-S1.</li> </ul>	
		Matters of control:	
		<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>	
		<ol><li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse visual amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li></ol>	
		<ol> <li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li> </ol>	

Page 17 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

All zones	2. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R12(1).
	Matters of discretion:
	<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the temporary network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
	2. The bulk, <i>height</i> , location, and design of the <i>network utility</i> , including any associated <i>buildings</i> or <i>structures</i> .
	<ol> <li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li> </ol>
	The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network     Utilities Standards.
	<ol><li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li></ol>
	6. Effects on areas of <i>outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation</i> , historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.

NU-R13		Antenna attached to a building (regulated by the NESTF that do not meet the permitted standards in Regulation 37 of the NESTF)
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Controlled</b> Where:      a. A new panel <i>antenna</i> does not exceed a maximum front face area of 2m²; and
		<ul> <li>b. For antenna attached to a building, provided the antenna does not exceed a height of 5m above the point of attachment to the building.</li> </ul>
		Matters of control:
		<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
		<ol><li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse visual amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li></ol>
		<ol> <li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li> </ol>

Page 18 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

All zones	2. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R13(1).
	Matters of discretion:
	<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the temporary network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>The bulk, height, location, and design of the network utility, including any associated buildings or structures.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li></ol>
	<ol> <li>The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li></ol>
	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>

NU-R14		Telecommunications <i>cabinets</i> (regulated by the NESTF that do not meet the permitted standards in Regulations 20, 21, or 22 of the NESTF)
	All zones	Activity status: Controlled     Where:
		<ul> <li>a. A telecommunications cabinet does not exceed a footprint of 2.5m² or a height of 2m; or</li> </ul>
		b. A group of telecommunications <i>cabinets</i> do not exceed a footprint of 3m².
		Matters of control:
		<ol> <li>The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.</li> </ol>
		<ol> <li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse visual amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li> </ol>
		3. The location of <i>network utilities</i> , including the need for connections to existing networks and services.

Page 19 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

All zones	2. Activity status: Restricted discretionary
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R14(1).
	Matters of discretion:
	4. The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the temporary network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.
	<ol> <li>The bulk, height, location, and design of the network utility, including any associated buildings or structures.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</li></ol>
	<ol><li>The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.</li></ol>
	<ol><li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li></ol>
	<ol> <li>Effects on areas of outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation, historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.</li> </ol>

NU-R15		Aboveground <i>network utilities</i> (including <i>network utility buildings</i> and structures and enclosed substations) not provided for by another rule in this chapter
	Residential,	Activity status: <b>Permitted</b>
	Rural	Where:
	Lifestyle, Open Space, Recreation Zones, Māori	<ul> <li>a. The maximum building and structure height for the underlying zone is complied with, or the building does not exceed a height of 10m, whichever is greater;</li> </ul>
	Purpose	b. The <i>building</i> or structure does not exceed a footprint of 20m²;
	Zone, Future Urban Zone	c. The <i>building</i> or structure is set back 3m from any site boundary in any Residential Zone (excluding network utility structures located in roads); and
		<ul><li>d. Compliance is achieved with Network Utilities Standards NU- S3 – NU-S7.</li></ul>
	Commercial	2. Activity status: <b>Permitted</b>
	and Mixed Use Zones	Where:

Page 20 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

	a.	Within the Neighbourhood Centre Zone, the following zone standards are complied with: NCZ-S1, S2, S3, S4, S5 and S9;
	b.	Within the Mixed Use Zone, the following zone standards are complied with: MUZ-S1, S2, S3, S4, S9, S10;
	C.	Within the Town Centre Zone, the following zone standards are complied with: TCZ-S1, S2, S3, S4, S6, S7 and S10; and
	d.	Compliance is achieved with Network Utilities Standards NU-S3 – NU-S7.
General Rural	3. Act	ivity status: Permitted
Zone and	Where	p:
General Industrial Zone	a.	Within the General Rural Zone, the following zone standards are complied with: GRUZ-S1, S2 and S3, and the maximum gross floor area of any building does not exceed 300m <sup>2</sup> ;
	b.	Within the General Industrial Zone, the following zone standards are complied with: GIZ-S1, S2, S3, S4, S6, S7 and S10.
All zones	4. Act	ivity status: Restricted discretionary
	Where	p:
	a.	Compliance is not achieved with NU-R15(1), NU-R15(2) or NU-R15(3); and
	b.	Compliance is achieved with:
		i. NU-S4; and ii. NU-S5.
	Matter	s of discretion:
	1.	The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the temporary network utility, including the potential impact on the levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.
	2.	The bulk, <i>height</i> , location, and design of the <i>network utility</i> , including any associated <i>buildings</i> or <i>structures</i> .
	3.	The amenity values of the respective zone and the extent to which any adverse amenity effects can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.
	4.	The effects of non-compliance with any relevant Network Utilities Standards.
	5.	In the Commercial and Mixed Use Zones, the Genera Rural Zone or the General Industrial Zone, the effects of noncompliance with any relevant zone standards.

Page 21 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

	Whether the works may result in public health and/or safety risks.
	<ol> <li>The location of network utilities, including the need for connections to existing networks and services.</li> </ol>
	8. Effects on areas of <i>outstanding natural features and landscapes, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation</i> , historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.
All zones	5. Activity status: Non-complying
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-S4 or NU-S5.

NU-R16		conve	eground pipelines and ancillary structures for the yance, treatment, storage, or retention/detention of water, water, or stormwater
	All zones	1. Acti	vity status: Restricted discretionary
		Matter	s of discretion:
		1.	The functional need or operational need of, and benefits from, the network utility, including the potential impact on levels of service or health and safety if the work is not undertaken.
		2.	Whether the works may result in public health and/or safety risks.
		3.	The extent to which the <i>network utility</i> may adversely impact on existing land uses.
		4.	The extent, nature, and effects of earthworks and vegetation clearance and any related adverse ecological effects.
		5.	Control of erosion and sediment, including effects on drainage, flooding, and overland flow paths.
		6.	Site reinstatement and replanting.
		7.	The location of <i>network utilities</i> , including the need for connections to existing networks and services.
		8.	Effects on areas of <i>outstanding natural features and landforms, waterbodies, indigenous vegetation</i> , historic heritage, and sites and areas of significance to Māori.

1	NU-R17	Water reservoirs and wastewater treatment plants
	All zones	Activity status: <b>Discretionary</b>

NU-R18	Buildings, structures, and activities in the National Grid Yard
--------	---

Page 22 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

All zones	Activity status: Permitted
	Where:
	a. The activity is not a sensitive activity;
	<ul> <li>b. Buildings or structures comply with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP34:2001) and are:</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>i. for a network utility;</li> <li>ii. a fence not exceeding 2.5m in height above ground level;</li> <li>iii. a non-habitable building or structure used for agricultural and horticultural activities including irrigation that is not a milking shed/dairy shed (excluding the stockyards and ancillary platforms), a wintering barn, a building for intensive production or, a commercial greenhouse, or produce packing facilities; or</li> <li>iv. building alterations or additions to an existing building or structure that do not increase the height above ground level or footprint of the building or structure; or</li> </ul>
	c. A building or structure provided for by (b)(i) to (iv) must:
	<ul> <li>i. not be used for the handling or storage of hazardous substances with explosive or flammable intrinsic properties in greater than domestic-scale quantities;</li> <li>ii. not permanently obstruct vehicle access to a National Grid support structure; or</li> <li>iii. be located at least 12m from the outer visible edge of a foundation of a National Grid support structure, except where it is: <ul> <li>a fence not exceeding 2.5m height above ground level that is located at least 6m from the outer visible edge of a foundation of a National Grid support structure; or</li> <li>an artificial crop protection structure or crop support structure not exceeding 2.5m in height and located at least 8m from a National Grid transmission line pole that is removable or temporary to allow a clear working space of 12m from the pole for maintenance and allows all weather access to the pole and a sufficient area for maintenance equipment, including a crane.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
All zones	Activity status: Non-complying
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R18(1).  Notification:

Page 23 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

Application for resource consent under this rule will be decided without public notification. If a resource consent application is made under this rule, Transpower will be considered an affected person in accordance with Section 95E of the RMA and notified of the application, where written approval is not provided.

1	NU-R19	In the	National Grid Yard:
		1.	Land disturbance for the installation of fence posts
		2.	Earthworks
	All zones	1. Act	ivity status: <b>Permitted</b>
		Where	e:
		a.	The land disturbance and earthworks is no deeper than 300mm within 6m of the outer edge of a foundation of a National Grid transmission line tower or pole;
		b.	The land disturbance and earthworks is no deeper than 3m between 6m and 12m from the outer visible edge of a foundation of a 110kV National Grid transmission line tower or pole;
		C.	The land disturbance and earthworks does not compromise the stability of a National Grid transmission line tower or pole;
		d.	The land disturbance and earthworks does not result in a reduction in the ground to conductor clearance distances as required in Table 4 of the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Safe Electrical Distances (NZECP 34:2001);
		e.	The land disturbance and earthworks does not result in existing vehicular access to a National Grid support structure being permanently obstructed; and
		f.	Clauses (a)-(e) do not apply to the following:
			<ul> <li>i. land disturbance undertaken as part of agricultural, horticultural or domestic cultivation, or repair or resealing of a road, footpath, driveway, or farm track;</li> <li>ii. excavation of a vertical hole, not exceeding 500mm in diameter, that is more than 1.5m from outer visible edge of foundation of a National Grid transmission line pole or stay wire; and</li> <li>iii. earthworks that otherwise meets the requirements of the New Zealand Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP34:2001).</li> </ul>

Page 24 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

All zones	2. Activity status: Non-complying
	Where:
	a. Compliance is not achieved with NU-R19(1).  Notification:
	Application for resource consent under this rule will be decided without public notification. Transpower is likely to be the only affected person determined in accordance with section 95B of the Resource Management Act 1991.

# **Standards**

NU-S1	Maximum structure height (poles and towers, including combined height of pole and antenna)
Residential Zones	For towers: 15m
	For <i>poles</i> : For a single user of a pole 15m or 5m above the permitted <i>height</i> standard of the zone in which the <i>structure</i> is located, whichever is the greater.
	For two or more uses of the pole, the permitted height above, plus an additional 5m.
	Except that:
	1. Omni directional 'whip', GPS, or dipole <i>antenna</i> that complies with dimensions in NU-R11(d) are excluded from the 'combined <i>height</i> ' (i.e. only the pole needs to comply with the maximum <i>structure height</i> ).
	Lightning rods are exempt from maximum <i>height</i> standard.
Commercial Zones	For towers: 20m
	For <i>poles</i> : For a single user of a pole 20m or 5m above the permitted <i>height</i> standard of the zone in which the <i>structure</i> is located, whichever is the greater.
	For two or more uses of the pole, the permitted height above, plus an additional 5m.
	Except that:
	1. Omni directional 'whip', GPS, or dipole <i>antenna</i> that complies with dimensions in NU-R11(d) are excluded from the 'combined <i>height</i> '

Page 25 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

	(i.e. only the <i>pole</i> needs to comply with the maximum <i>structure height</i> ).
	Lightning rods are exempt from maximum <i>height</i> standard.
Rural Zones	25m, or 30m where there are two or more users of the same <i>pole</i> .
Open Space Zones	Lighting rods are exempt from maximum height standard.
General Industrial Zone	
Special Purpose Zones	
NU-S2	Buildings and structure height and setbacks
All Zones	Except where Standard NU-S1 applies, buildings and <i>structures</i> comply with the <i>building height</i> , setback (excluding network utility structures located in road), and <i>height in relation to boundary</i> standards for the zone.
NU-S3	Parking and access requirements
All Zones	Where a <i>network utility</i> is permanently staffed:
	A minimum of 1 car park per full time equivalent must be provided (for sites in Carterton or South Wairarapa Districts only);
	Any new carparks must meet the requirements for on-site vehicle parking spaces in TR-S16 to TR-S22; and
	3. Any new vehicle access point must meet the requirements of TR-S6 to TR-S11.
NU-S4	Radio frequency fields
All Zones	If generating radiofrequency fields, an activity must not exceed the maximum exposure level of the general public in New Zealand Standards NZS2772.1: 1999 Radiofrequency fields - Maximum exposure levels - 3KHz to 300 GHz.
NU-S5	Electric and magnetic fields
All Zones	If generating electric and magnetic fields, the activity must not exceed the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection Guidelines for limiting exposure to time varying electric and magnetic fields (1Hz - 100kHz) (Health physics, 2010, 99(6);

Page 26 of 27 As of 8 October 2025

# Proposed Wairarapa Combined District Plan (Decisions Version) NU – Network Utilities

	818-836) and recommendations from the World Health Organisation monograph Environmental Health Criteria (No 238, June 2007).
NU-S6	Light
All Zones	Activities must meet the light standards in LIGHT Chapter.
NU-S7	Noise
All Zones	Activities must meet the noise standards in NOISE Chapter.

Page 27 of 27 As of 8 October 2025