

TE UKU WIND FARM ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION ROUTE FINALISED

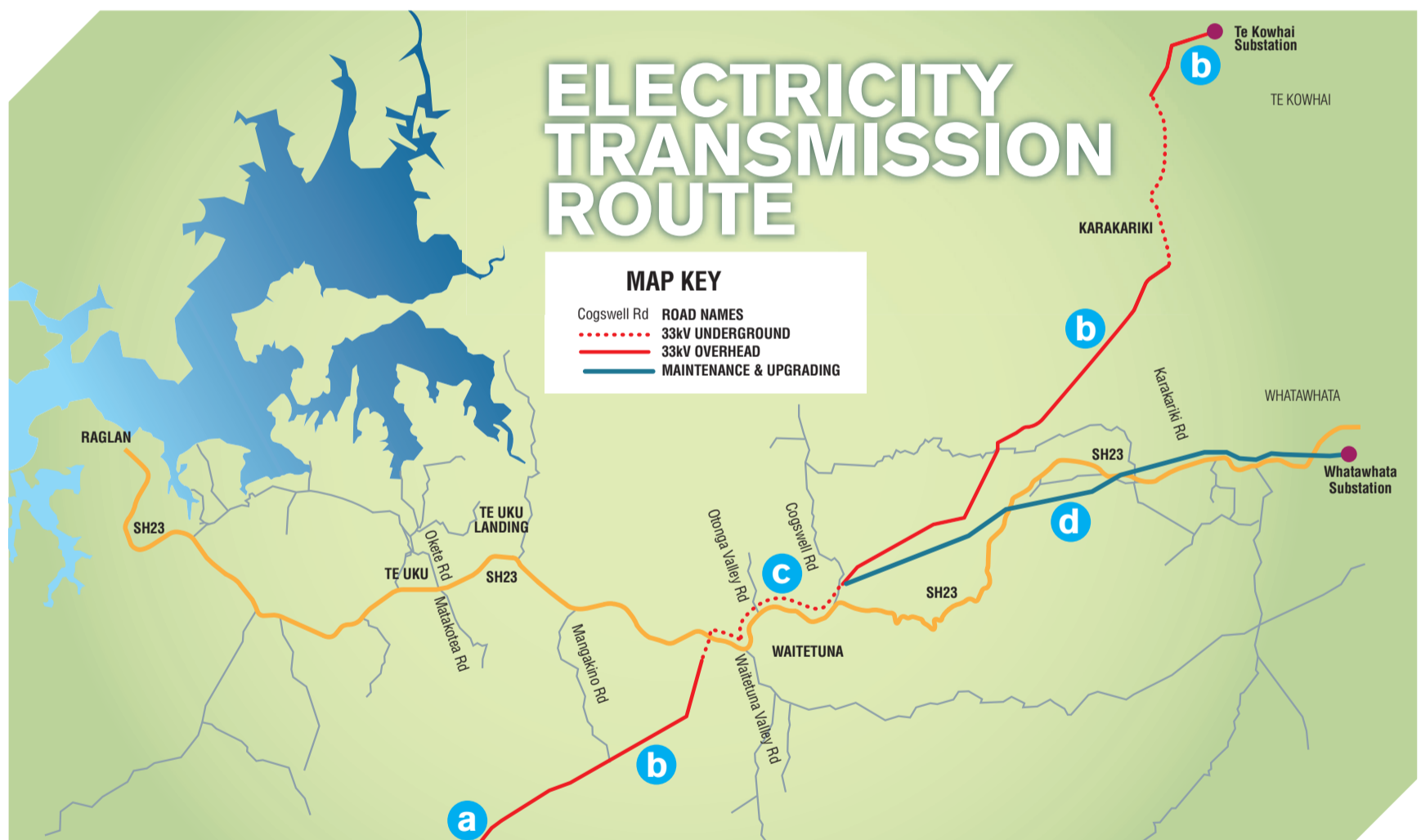
ON 15 OCTOBER, Meridian Energy and WEL Networks announced that the Te Uku Wind Farm, situated near Raglan will go ahead.

In preparation for electricity generation, WEL Networks will soon begin constructing the electricity transmission route that will capture the electricity at the wind farm and connect into WEL Network's Te Uku and Te Kowhai Substations.

WEL contractors will begin clearing vegetation before Christmas. Power poles will be erected from approximately February 2010 and the entire transmission route will be built and commissioned by October 2010.

HERE ARE A FEW QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE TRANSMISSION ROUTE:

Size of the wind farm	64MW capacity
Line capacity via	33kV lines
Average height of power poles	15 metres
Number of new poles erected	Approximately 140
Length of cable undergrounded	8km (one third) of the 25km route
Station type built at the wind farm	Fully enclosed switching station
Trees and vegetation to be removed	Vegetation will be removed as necessary along the transmission route; most likely, trees will not be removed along the undergrounded portions



This map shows the electricity transmission route that will be constructed by WEL Networks, starting at the wind farm at Te Uku and ending at WEL's Te Kowhai Substation. The dots on the map explain different facts about the finalised transmission route plan.

- a** Because the wind farm will be 20MW less than originally consented, there is no need for a large substation at the point of origin. Instead, there will be a fully-enclosed switching station building – this means aerial equipment and electrical gear will not be exposed. A small administration office will also be erected beside the switching station.
- b** These three portions of the transmission route follow the same exact route as the one that was originally proposed and consented.
- c** The finalised transmission route will follow Highway 23 from just west of Waitetuna Valley Road through to Cogswell Road. This portion of the route will be undergrounded as will the portion of the route through the village of Karakariki.
- d** In addition to building the new transmission route, maintenance and upgrading work will take place on existing poles from Cogswell Road through to Whatawhata Substation. These old power lines will be replaced following construction of the new transmission route.

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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS INFORMATION, PLEASE PHONE 0800 TE UKU WIND (0800 838 589).