

10. APPLICATION TO ATTACH RADIO FREQUENCY EQUIPMENT TO COUNCIL ROAD ASSETS



General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Transport and Greenspace
Author:	Weng Kei Chen, Asset Policy Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's Consent for Arc Innovations Limited to attach its equipment to existing Council road assets particularly street lighting standards, traffic signal poles, other sign supports, and on Orion's overhead support structures.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Council has received an expression of interest from Arc Innovations Limited to attach its equipment to the Council's streetlights standards, traffic signal poles, other sign supports, and also on Orion's electrical overhead reticulation supports.
3. The equipment will be used to operate a Radio Frequency network for the company's Advanced Meter Management system which will be used by Meridian to monitor and bill its electricity customers.
4. This equipment will provide a new Smart Metering system, which will allow Meridian Energy to remotely monitor and bill its electricity customers. The radio network consists of a series of antennae with one take out point antenna serving 10 to 12 Wangate antenna. This proposal is for 10 to 12 take out points. The appearance of these antennae are indicated on the attached plans.
5. This report seeks approval from the Council for this equipment to be attached to the Council's roading assets, with individual approval for each site location to be granted by the Corporate Support Manager under delegated authority, following the Council's current process for approval of cellular sites on legal road.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. The technology will be installed at no cost to the Council.
7. The company requires the Council's consent to install its equipment on legal road. This consent can be administered by licence to occupy legal road similar to the arrangements already in place with telecommunications companies for their cellular networks equipment.
8. The terms of the licence will be negotiated by the Council Corporate Support Manager.
9. Staff are investigating the possibility of accessing the system for monitoring and controlling the Council's infrastructural networks. If the outcome of this investigation is positive, the access to the system will form one of the conditions in the terms of the licence.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council:

- (a) Grant approval for the use of the Council's road assets by Arc Innovations Limited for the purposes set out in this report.
- (b) That the Corporate Support Manager be delegated power to grant approval for individual sites.
- (c) That the Corporate Support Manager also be delegated power to finalise appropriate terms and conditions for a licence to occupy legal road, following negotiations with Arc Innovations Limited.

BACKGROUND

10. The staff of Arc Innovations Limited has been in discussion with staff from Christchurch City Council and Orion in the last six months enabling it to roll out its Advanced Meter Management (AMM) system.
11. The system is a Smart Metering technology and will be used by Meridian to its electricity customers for monitoring and to bill its electricity customers.
12. The Christchurch deployment will be an international showcase for the Smart Metering Technology.
13. The system is a radio frequency network and will be on the Council's street lighting networks on streets where there are no overhead reticulations and will be on Orion's network poles where overhead reticulations are present.
14. The radio frequency network will consist of approximately 10-12 take out points, each having approximately 10-13 wangles. The plans for this equipment are attached.
15. The first roll out is planned for the Shirley/Avondale area with a completion date of April 2007.
16. The existing Council asset can be modified to accommodate the attachments of the proposed equipment. The modification or upgrading of Council assets will be carried out at no cost to the Council.
17. Once a general consent has been approved by Council the individual site approvals can be considered following the current process for expression of interest for individual cellular sites and the Corporate Support Manager has the delegation to approve their locations on the road asset.
18. In addition Arc Innovations Limited is required to comply with the rules of the City Plan and this will follow a separate Resource Management Act process through the Council.