



company profile

welcome

Introduction

Environmental Challenge is a consultancy providing specialist advice and services related to the environment, land and resources. Its main areas of focus are the electricity, energy and infrastructure sectors.

Environmental Challenge has particular expertise in:

- Environmental Planning and Policy
- Property Investigations and Landowner Consultation and Negotiation
- Route/Site Evaluation and Establishment, and Economics
- Concessions and Conservation Management
- Environmental Management Systems

about us

In Short

Environmental Challenge was established in 2001 by Laurence Sherriff, a consultant with experience in project management, environmental planning, resource management, property and route and route/site evaluation and establishment.

The initial aim of Environmental Challenge was to provide specialist advice and services to the electricity, energy and infrastructure sectors, in relation to land and resources. These clients remain a key focus and an area of expertise for the consultancy.

Environmental Challenge has now completed over 600 environmental planning investigations and applications related to the Resource Management Act or other environmental legislation. This includes a high percentage of designation work.

Environmental Challenge has considerable experience with property legislation, landowner negotiations and consultation for electricity lines companies, electricity generators and other clients. Most of this work has involved strategic planning and evaluation of routes and sites for a number of network utility projects.

Since its establishment, Environmental Challenge has continued to develop and extend its services. It also has expertise in facilitating the process for applying for access to Department of Conservation resources, through Concessions.

Above all, Environmental Challenge wants to work effectively for its clients. It has a very strong focus on systems that will achieve results. This means Environmental Challenge regularly monitors and fine-tunes its work, keeping the client as the central focus.

our services

Environmental Challenge provides comprehensive services that can be tailored to meet the client's specific needs. Services fall into five main categories:

Environmental Planning and Policy

Helping clients to achieve their objectives within the requirements of the Resource Management Act and similar legislation.

- Environmental planning and pre-feasibility investigations
- Strategic planning assessments of alternative methods, routes or sites for network utilities
- Resource consent applications, designations, outline plans, certificates of compliance, existing use certificates, resource consent condition changes, management plans and monitoring
- Assessments of Environmental Effects (AEE) and consultation
- Policy analysis, plan changes and plan submissions
- Interpretation and general advice on relevant legislation eg. Resource Management Act, Building Act, Local Government Act, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act, Biosecurity Act and Reserves Act

Property, Negotiation and Economic Services

Exploring client's rights, responsibilities and opportunities in relation to property.

- Site and route prospecting and discovery, and preliminary title searches
- Landowner negotiations
- Legal and regulatory investigations and applications
- Project management of landowner negotiations, surveying, valuation, crown accredited agents and conveyancing.
- Establishment and acquisition of sites or routes
- Interpretation and general advice on relevant legislation eg. Electricity Act, Public Works Act

Route/Site Evaluation and Establishment, and Economics

Helping clients to identify, access and budget for the ideal site or route for their project.

- Identifying optimal sites, routes or methods through evaluation eg. in terms of property, environmental, conservation, legal, commercial and technical constraints or opportunities
- GIS to support site and route evaluations
- Capital budgeting, cash flow and cost benefit analysis
- Multi-criteria decision analysis
- Applied environmental and natural resource economics.
- Project management of the acquisition and consenting of routes and sites.

our services continued

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| Concessions | Working for clients to gain appropriate access to Department of Conservation (DoC) managed resources. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Facilitating the negotiation of side-agreements with DoC▪ Working with Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between DoC and commercial users of conservation land▪ Preparing and managing concession applications (new activities/ renewals/ variations) for commercial activity on DoC administered land▪ Environmental Impact Assessments for concession applications |
| Environmental Management and Compliance | Working with clients to create systems to reduce their environmental impact. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Compliance auditing of contractors for the Resource Management Act, Building Act, Local Government Act, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act, Biosecurity Act and Reserves Act and other environmental and property based legislation▪ Micro-waste, water and energy auditing▪ Planning, implementation and review of environmental management systems in accordance with ISO 14001▪ Product stewardship and life cycle assessment▪ Eco and environmental labelling and other certification schemes▪ Cleaner production▪ Environmental, Triple Bottom Line and Sustainability Reporting and Measurement |

our approach

Environmental Challenge is driven by the priorities of its clients, and will assess each project on that basis. Generally, clients want the consultancy to focus on:

- Time, as critical
- Quality, as essential
- Value for money

We Deliver

Specialisation

Environmental Challenge focuses heavily on the industries it knows well; electricity utilities, energy and infrastructure.

Diversity

All projects benefit from the diverse backgrounds and skills of Environmental Challenge staff.

Agility

The Environmental Challenge team is small, so clients and regulators deal directly with the experts. Long-term relationships are nurtured.

Facilitation

Environmental Challenge's work is to produce the best outcome for the client, with as little negative impact as possible. Environmental Challenge is adept at providing opportunities for all stakeholders in a project to be identified and considered within the client's overall objectives.

System-savvy

Environmental Challenge has developed a clear understanding of what is required to achieve results for the client. As a result, it has been able to establish clear systems that will produce effective results. This means from start to finish the client knows what Environmental Challenge is doing, what will happen next, where issues might arise and how much it will cost them.

Ongoing Improvement

Environmental Challenge understands the various regulatory systems in place but is constantly questioning and challenging them, to get the best outcome for the client. It also constantly looks at its own work to find ways to improve.

contact us

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