



Office of Hon Dr Nick Smith

MP for Nelson

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Climate Change Issues

Minister for ACC

Dr Bryan Jenkins
Chief Executive
Environment Canterbury
P O Box 345
CHRISTCHURCH 8140

Dear Dr Jenkins

Resource Consent Applications for Under-Cover Dairy Farming in the MacKenzie Basin

Thank you for your letter responding to my consideration to appoint a Project Coordinator to provide advice on the processing of the above applications. I understand that you see value in such an appointment.

Having now discussed this matter with Cabinet, I have decided, pursuant to section 141A(4)(d) of the Resource Management Act 1991, that the Secretary for the Environment, Dr Paul Reynolds, be appointed as Project Coordinator for these applications. This appointment is effective immediately.

I recognise that your Council is now substantially advanced in the processing of these applications, with hearings on the discharge permits to commence early in March 2010. I have chosen to appoint a Project Coordinator to assist you with the applications because they have not only generated wide spread public interest and concern about the environmental effects of the proposals but also because they have created a substantial workload for Environment Canterbury. The Project Coordinator will provide advice on best practice resource consent processing, which I hope will assist in streamlining the process you have before you.

The Project Coordinator will make immediate contact with you to arrange an initial meeting to discuss the process from here. I understand that Environment Canterbury have been consulted on the Terms of Reference for the Project Coordinator, which are under development. In particular, I require that the Project Coordinator report to me on a monthly basis while the applications are processed.

I look forward to hearing of the progress made in the processing of these applications. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance on this matter. I acknowledge that Environment Canterbury does not have any easy task ahead in hearing and deciding these applications.

Yours sincerely

Hon Dr Nick Smith
Minister for the Environment