



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 6) 2022

Portfolios **Environment / Conservation**

On 28 March 2022, Cabinet:

- 1 **noted** that the Minister for the Environment and the Minister of Conservation have decided under section 24 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 to accept the application for referral of Ariki Tahi Sugarloaf Wharf Limited's Ariki Tahi Sugarloaf Wharf Upgrade project to a panel;
- 2 **noted** that the Ariki Tahi Sugarloaf Wharf Upgrade project meets the eligibility criteria in section 18 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020, and is considered to help achieve the Act's purpose as it will:
 - 2.1 generate approximately 95 direct full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs over an 18- month construction period and enable approximately 367 indirect FTE jobs once complete;
 - 2.2 provide infrastructure to improve employment and economic outcomes in the aquaculture industry, and support on-going investment in, and development of, commercial aquaculture in the Waikato-East region;
 - 2.3 enhance social well-being by improving access to the coastal marine area for recreational use and providing infrastructure that is safer to use, better caters to the needs of users, and is more resilient to natural hazards and the effects of climate change than the current facilities at the site;
 - 2.4 progress faster than would otherwise be the case under standard Resource Management Act 1991 processes;
- 3 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 6) 2022 requires Ariki Tahi Sugarloaf Wharf Limited to provide to an expert consenting panel an ecological assessment, a water quality assessment, a coastal processes assessment, an assessment against the Waikato Regional Council climate change guidelines, and information regarding their legal right to access and use the land within the project site, as detailed in Appendix three to the submission under CAB-21-SUB-0094;

- 4 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 6) 2022 requires an expert consenting panel appointed to consider Ariki Tahī Sugarloaf Wharf Limited's Ariki Tahī Sugarloaf Wharf Upgrade project to seek comments from the Waikato regional harbourmaster and the Waipapa Bay Protection Society, as listed in Appendix three;
- 5 **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 6) 2022 [PCO 24631/2.0];
- 6 **noted** that on 27 July 2020, Cabinet agreed to waivers of the 28-day rule so that Orders in Council made under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 can come into force as soon as they are notified in the New Zealand Gazette [CAB-20-MIN-0353];
- 7 **noted** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 6) 2022 will come into force on 1 April 2022.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982