



28 September 2022

BRF-2175

Ministers of/for:

Infrastructure; Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti; Housing; Education; Arts, Culture, and Heritage; Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations; Local Government; Conservation; Land Information; Defence; Transport; Climate Change; and Associate Minister for the Environment (urban policy)

Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Ministers

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – Pohutukawa Drive Subdivision Project

Evans Family Trust has applied to refer the Pohutukawa Drive Subdivision Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA). This letter is sent to you pursuant to section 21(2) of the FTCA.

The purpose of the FTCA is to urgently promote employment to support New Zealand's recovery from the economic and social impacts of COVID-19 and to support certainty of investment while continuing to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

The project is described in Appendix A, and the application documents are in Attachment 1.

I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application. If I accept the application and the project is referred, the applicant will be able to lodge applications with the Environmental Protection Authority for the approvals needed under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) for the project, and a panel will be appointed to consider and decide them. The applicant must provide a more detailed environmental assessment and cultural impact assessment(s) as part of their RMA applications. You will have an opportunity at that stage to provide comments to the panel.

Please provide your comments via return email within 10 working days if you wish me to take them into consideration when deciding whether or not to accept the referral application.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Parker', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Appendix:

- A. Description of proposed project

Attachment:

1. Application to refer Pohutukawa Drive Subdivision Project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information (Databox link in covering email)

Attachment A - Proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Pohutukawa Drive Subdivision	Evans Family Trust	The project is to subdivide a 12-hectare site in three stages and construct a housing development at 996 State Highway 2, Eskdale, Hawke's Bay. The project will create 81 residential lots and 1 commercial lot and will provide 83 residential units (81 standalone homes and 2 apartments above the commercial floorspace). The application includes realigning the Whirinaki Drain, constructing a wastewater treatment plant, and a 2-hectare solar farm over the wastewater discharge fields. It is intended that the wastewater treatment plant is powered by the solar farm.