



BRF-2666

Evans Family Trust
c/- Jason Kaye
Senior Planner
Development Nous Limited
s 9(2)(a)

Dear Jason Kaye

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – Notice of Decision (Section 25)
– Pohutukawa Drive Subdivision Project**

Thank you for Evans Family Trust's application under section 20 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA) seeking referral of the Pohutukawa Drive Subdivision Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (panel) for consideration under the FTCA.

The project is to subdivide a 12-hectare site located at 996 State Highway 2, Eskdale, Hawke's Bay, to create approximately 81 lots for residential use, 1 lot for commercial use, and construct approximately 83 residential units (81 standalone homes and 2 second-storey apartments above the commercial floorspace). Construction of the residential units will be undertaken by third parties.

The project includes construction of supporting infrastructure, including roads, accessways, parking areas and three waters services (including construction of a private wastewater treatment plant) and a 2-hectare solar farm (located over the wastewater discharge fields). It is intended that the wastewater treatment plant is powered by the solar farm. The project also includes realigning and restoration planting the Whirinaki Drain and the creation of public open space areas.

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

I can only refer a project to a panel for consideration under the FTCA if it meets the referral criteria in section 18 of the FTCA, which includes me being satisfied the project will help achieve the FTCA's purpose. I can also decline to refer a project for any reason, under s 23(2) of the FTCA. This is not a criticism or endorsement of a project.

I have decided the project does not meet the referral criteria in section 18(2) of the FTCA. The project may not promote sustainable management of natural and physical resources as it does not align with existing district plan policy, infrastructure planning and strategic planning for future urban development within the Hastings District.

I also consider it is more appropriate for the project to go through standard consenting processes under the Resource Management Act 1991 (section 23(5)(b) of the FTCA).

Accordingly, I have decided to decline your application for referral under sections 23(1) and 23(2) and 23(5)(b) of the FTCA.

The FTCA requires that:

1. I provide a copy of this decision to the persons, entities and groups specified in section 25(1) of the FTCA
2. My decision, the reasons for my decision and the Section 17 Report will be published on the Ministry for the Environment's website in accordance with section 25(3) of the FTCA.

Please contact the Fast-track Consenting Team at the Ministry for the Environment (fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz) if you have any questions or wish to discuss this decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Parker', is positioned below the 'Yours sincerely' text.

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

cc Ministers of/for:

Arts, Culture, and Heritage; Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti; Housing; Infrastructure; Education; Transport; Land Information; Defence; Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations; Local Government; Conservation; and Climate Change

Local authorities:

Hastings District Council
Hawkes Bay Regional Council