

Response ID ANON-URZ4-5F91-T

Submitted to Fast-track approval applications  
Submitted on 2024-05-02 20:26:45

Submitter details

Is this application for section 2a or 2b?

2A

1 Submitter name

Individual or organisation name:  
RS Sand Limited

2 Contact person

Contact person name:  
Christian McDean

3 What is your job title

Job title:  
Principal Planner

4 What is your contact email address?

Email:  
s 9(2)(a)

5 What is your phone number?

Phone number:  
s 9(2)(a)

6 What is your postal address?

Postal address:  
  
Kinetic Environmental Consulting Limited  
PO Box 9413  
Hamilton 3240

7 Is your address for service different from your postal address?

No

Organisation:

Contact person:

Phone number:

Email address:

Job title:

Please enter your service address:

Section 1: Project location

Site address or location

Add the address or describe the location:

77 Newcombe Road, Cambridge  
Record of Title 841793 & 821177

File upload:  
77 Newcombe Rd Cambridge.pdf was uploaded

Upload file here:  
No file uploaded

Do you have a current copy of the relevant Record(s) of Title?

Yes

upload file:  
821177 & 841793 Titles.pdf was uploaded

Who are the registered legal land owner(s)?

Please write your answer here:

Whitehall Fruitpackers Holdings Limited

Detail the nature of the applicant’s legal interest (if any) in the land on which the project will occur

Please write your answer here:

RS Sand Limited have a Land Rights Deed with Whitehall Fruitpackers Holdings Limited allowing access to the site for sand quarrying/processing and sale purposes. This deed includes site remediation.

Section 2: Project details

What is the project name?

Please write your answer here:  
Newcombe Road Sand Quarry

What is the project summary?

Please write your answer here:

The creation of a new sand quarry at 77 Newcombe Road, Cambridge. The quarry will extract a deposit of high quality alluvial sand. The quality of this sand resource allows for further processing providing for aggregate products for the concrete, construction/housing, recreation, and infrastructure markets as opposed to a pit sand (non-processed) only operation.

What are the project details?

Please write your answer here:

RS Sand Limited (RS Sand) are seeking approval to establish and operate a sand quarry located at 77 Newcombe Road, Cambridge (the Site). Up to 400,000 tonnes of sand per year is proposed to be extracted over five stages and for approximately 25 years.

The quarry is made up of a 23 hectare pit area towards the western boundary and a 4 hectare plant area (for processing and stockpiling) to the east of the pit. The pit area is estimated to contain 7,409,700 tonnes (4,116,500m3) of sand resource, comprising a mixture of pit sand and concrete sand. It is important to note that the Newcombe Road sand is of a high quality that is suitable for use in concrete products and other applications. Many other sand resources in the region are not suitable for processing into higher grade products and are quarried and sold as pit sand to the bulk fill market. Aggregates are fundamental to the lives of everyday New Zealanders and without an on-going supply, the cost of concrete production and the development of buildings, roads and infrastructure would increase or development will come to a standstill. Quarrying needs to be carried out as close to where materials will be used as possible to keep transportation costs low and help minimise building costs and emissions. With consented sand resources running out locally and regionally, a future supply of sand for regional and nationally significant construction activities will assist in providing affordable sand and therefore concrete for the housing and infrastructure sectors.

Describe the staging of the project, including the nature and timing of the staging

Please write your answer here:

Following approval of the consent, site works will commence, with sand extraction and sales expected within 3 – 6 months.

Staging is proposed as follows:

Stages	Years	Total Sand
1	0 to 1.5	452,700 tonnes/251,500 m3
2	1.5 to 6.4	1,450,800 tonnes/806,000 m3
3	6.4 to 13.4	2,110,500 tonnes/1,172,500 m3
4	13.4 to 20.2	2,049,300 tonnes/1,138,500 m3

5 20.2 to 24.8 1,346,000 tonnes/748,000 m3  
TOTALS 24.8 Years 7,409,700 tonnes/4,116,500 m3

Following each stage being completed as described above, rehabilitation will take place, by providing a layer of 'pit sand' or sand with organics, clay, pumice etc before reapplying the topsoil layers. The topsoil layers will be stored within bunds on the property while awaiting respreading. The completed stages once rehabilitated will be re seeded with grass and returned to the land owner to allow it to continue to be farmed. The access roads and processing areas will be subject to the same rehabilitation methods at the end of the quarry life.

What are the details of the regime under which approval is being sought?

Please write your answer here:

Resource Management Act - Resource consents both from territorial and regional councils for land use, take and discharge consents.  
Wildlife Act - Permit for interaction with wildlife i.e. bats and lizards  
Heritage New Zealand - Archaeological Authority – Potential for archaeology within the excavation area.

If you seeking approval under the Resource Management Act, who are the relevant local authorities?

Please write your answer here:

Waipā District Council  
Waikato Regional Council

What applications have you already made for approvals on the same or a similar project?

Please write your answer here:

Resource consent applications have been lodged with the Waipā District and Waikato Regional Council for this project. These applications were lodged in May 2023, further information requests were received and have been responded to in full in March 2024.

At the time of writing this application in April 2024, both the Waipā District and Waikato Regional Councils have advised that they are preparing their notification assessments and that no additional information is necessary beyond that supplied with the s.92 response in March 2024.

Is approval required for the project by someone other than the applicant?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

RS Sand has an agreement with the landowner – Whitehall Fruitpackers Limited. Final approval for the project would need to be provided for the consent to be given effect to. However commercial arrangements are already in place.

If the approval(s) are granted, when do you anticipate construction activities will begin, and be completed?

Please write your answer here:

RS Sand have a detailed design of the sand extraction and funding to progress to extraction, processing and marketing. The quarry will be mined in 5 stages and will be completed after approximately 25 years based on expected demand.

Following approval of the necessary consents Newcombe Road Quarry will be able to commence sand extraction and sales within 3-6 months. The timeline for this is as follows:

Prior to consent approval

- The project is internally funded and has been budgeted to begin as soon as consent is granted.
- Detailed design of quarry pit, processing area and bunding, office, weighbridge and workshop completed.
- Design of processing plant and water recycling facility completed.
- Some components of the processing plant acquired.
- Planning for the procurement of mobile plant.
- Ecological mitigation planned.
- Draft Management plans prepared.
- Sub contractors to carry out initial site works selected.

Consent approved

0-3 months

Employ staff

Siteworks including:

- excavating material to allow for construction of the processing area;
- construction of bunds;
- construction of access roads.

3- 6 months

- Employ Staff
- Site establishment works including:
  - Construction of environmental controls.
  - Stripping of stage 1 including sale of pit sand
  - Construction of office, weighbridge and workshop

6 – 12 months

- Construction of:
  - Processing plant;
  - Office;
  - Weighbridge;
  - Workshop.

Processing plant commissioning and commencement of processed sand sales.

3 months during winter

- Mitigation measures:
  - Construction of wetlands;
  - Planting of wetlands
  - Fencing of wetlands.

### Section 3: Consultation

Who are the persons affected by the project?

Please write your answer here:

Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura  
Ngaati Hauaa Iwi Trust  
Waipa District Council  
Waikato Regional Council  
Waikato Tainui  
New Zealand Transport Agency  
Transpower  
Neighbouring Property Owners

Detail all consultation undertaken with the persons referred to above. Include a statement explaining how engagement has informed the project.

Please write your answer here:

- Ngā Iwi Tōpū O Waipā (NITOW), translated as The Assembled People of Waipā, is a group that represents all hapū in the Waipā District. They meet monthly and consider resource consent applications. They also consider other issues that are brought directly to iwi for consultation and consideration.

RS Sand contacted NITOW in relation to the proposal in December 2020 and the first site walkover was attended by representatives of Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa Iwi Trust (Ngaati Hauaa) in January 2021. The representatives identified that Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa's initial interests were:

- The Karapiro Stream.
- Enhancement of the gullies.
- Bats and lizards.

Liaison between Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura, Ngaati Hauaa and RS Sand continued throughout 2021, updating the representatives on the progress of the specialist assessments and changes to the proposal due to further work.

A second site walkover in February 2022 was attended by mana whenua and representatives of Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa. The history of the area, cultural connections, draft specialist assessments and proposed ecological mitigation measures were discussed.

In April 2022, RS Sand engaged Te Hira Consultant Limited (Te Hira) to assist with mana whenua engagement to confirm their collective cultural values, issues, mitigation recommendations and environmental position statement, and prepare a Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA).

On 10 May 2023, RS Sand received confirmation from both Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa that they had approved the CIA as prepared by Te Hira. Following this, the CIA was received by RS Sand on 12 May 2023.

Subject to the conditions and recommendations by RS Sand, Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa have confirmed a neutral position in relation to the Proposal. Waikato-Tainui endorses the recommendations and position of Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa as tāngata whenua of the area where the Site is located.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RS Sand, Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa has been established to provide for future

partnership outcomes.

- Waipā District Council & Waikato Regional Council – Pre application meetings were held with both Councils informing the parties of the project. This included specific staff members from the transportation team from Waipa District Council.

Vehicle movements through Cambridge were raised as an issue, as such work between transportation specialists from RS Sand and Waipa DC has been ongoing, with a response being formally provided within the RS Sand s.92 further information response in March 2024.

- New Zealand Transport Agency – A number of meetings have been held with the NZTA both pre and post lodgement to discuss the use of the Waikato expressway interchange for the transportation of product. Consultation is ongoing with the Transport Agency.

- Transpower NZ (Transpower) confirmed in December 2021 that the HAM-KPO-A 110 Kv transmission lines traverse diagonally across the northern portion of the Site and that the towers (HAM-KPO-A0013 and HAM-KPO-A0014) are both elevated approximately 50m above level ground. Operational engineers from Transpower's undertook a preliminary assessment of the proposed works in relation to the NZ Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34) and identified that any mobile plant traversing the hill approximately 100m from transmission tower HAM-KPO-A0013 for access or creation of the pit area should be limited to a maximum reach height of 4.0 meters in order to comply with the NZECP34.

Transpower recommend conditions for the construction and operation of the Newcombe Road site, so as to not conflict with the operation of the transmission lines. RS Sand have agreed to Transpower's recommended conditions. Transpower has provided their written approval for the Proposal.

- Neighbouring Property Owners

Initial consultation letters were sent to the adjacent/adjoining properties within the table below on 16 September 2021. The letters provided a summary of the proposal and informed the properties that RS Sand would like to meet to understand their views and concerns.

These letters were sent to the following addresses in proximity to the site:

o 41 Newcombe Rd, 1/41 Newcombe Rd, 2/42 French Pass Rd, 42 French Pass Rd, 94 French Pass Rd, 116 French Pass Rd, 130 French Pass Rd, 111 Newcombe Rd, 111A Newcombe Rd, 98 Lockley Rd, 324 Tirau Rd, 64 Lockley Rd and 14 Lockley Rd

RS Sand has continued engage with a number of adjoining or adjacent property owners since first making contact in 2021 and has continued this engagement through a dedicated Communications & Stakeholder Manager.

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Describe any processes already undertaken under the Public Works Act 1981 in relation to the land or any part of the land on which the project will occur:

Please write your answer here:

N/A

#### Section 4: Iwi authorities and Treaty settlements

What treaty settlements apply to the geographical location of the project?

Please write your answer here:

There are no treaty settlements applying to the site.

There are no statutory acknowledgement areas within the site. Both Ngāti Hauā and Ngāti Koroki Kahukura have statutory acknowledgement areas in the wider area over the Waikato River and its tributaries within their areas of interest. However, these appear to be from Lake Karapiro and its tributaries rather than those downstream where the Newcombe Road Sand Quarry is proposed to be located.

Are there any Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019 principles or provisions that are relevant to the project?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Are there any identified parcels of Māori land within the project area, marae, and identified wāhi tapu?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Is the project proposed on any land returned under a Treaty settlement or any identified Māori land described in the ineligibility criteria?

No

Has the applicant has secured the relevant landowners' consent?

Yes

Is the project proposed in any customary marine title area, protected customary rights area, or aquaculture settlement area declared under s 12 of the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004 or identified within an individual iwi settlement?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Has there been an assessment of any effects of the activity on the exercise of a protected customary right?

No

If yes, please explain:

Upload your assessment if necessary:

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## Section 5: Adverse effects

What are the anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment?

Please describe:

Through the resource consent application process, a comprehensive Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) has been completed. This includes support from relevant specialists for each of the effects identified. The potential effect has been identified, assessed and where relevant the use of 'avoid, remedy or mitigate' has been applied through the use of operational controls e.g. hours of operation, dust management and erosion control etc to site management e.g. landscape planting, ecological restoration, cultural inputs etc.

The anticipated and known adverse effects (prior to remediation or mitigation) are as follows:

- Landscape and Visual
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Transport
- Ecological
- Hydrology
- Groundwater
- Erosion and Sediment
- Geotechnical
- Cultural
- Archaeological

As described above an Assessment of Environmental Effects has been completed as part of the resource consent process. The AEE provided for the resource consent application and supported by appropriately qualified specialists is attached.

Upload file:

RS Sand - Newcombe Rd Sand Quarry AEE.pdf was uploaded

## Section 6: National policy statements and national environmental standards

What is the general assessment of the project in relation to any relevant national policy statement (including the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement) and national environmental standard?

Please write your answer here:

- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (Amended December 2022)

The following NPS-FM policies are relevant to the Proposal:

1. Freshwater is managed in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai.
2. Tangata whenua are actively involved in freshwater management (including decision making processes), and Māori freshwater values are identified and provide.
3. Freshwater is managed in an integrated way that considers the effects of the use and development of land on a whole-of-catchment basis, including the effects on receiving environments.
6. There is no further loss of extent of natural inland wetlands, their values are protected, and their restoration is promoted.
11. Freshwater is allocated and used efficiently, all existing over-allocation is phased out, and future over-allocation is avoided.

RS Sand has taken great care to include tangata whenua in this process, seeking input not only into the particular proposal but also seeking to strengthen their ongoing and future relationship with local iwi. In doing so, the applicant not only has catered for the underlying, fundamental principles of the NPS-FM, but has also been able to tailor this proposal in a way that recognises the importance of freshwater not only for the quarry's operations but for the surrounding landowners and tangata whenua as a whole.

The Proposal has considered the management of freshwater in an integrated and whole-of-catchment basis. The groundwater take is proposed from the

Hamilton Basin – South aquifer, which is not currently fully allocated, and the take is not considered to cause long-term stability issues on nearby consented abstractions.

As the wetland effects on the Site will be appropriately mitigated by the proposed wetland restoration along the southern bank of the Karapiro Stream between gullies A and F, overall, the Proposal will not result in the further loss of natural inland wetlands and their restoration will be promoted. The Proposal is consistent with and adheres to the NPS-FW.

- National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022

The objective of the NPS-HPL is that “highly productive land is protected for use in land-based primary production, both now and for future generations”. The following NPS-HPL policies are relevant to the Proposal:

1. Highly productive land is recognised as a resource with finite characteristics and long-term values for land-based primary production.
2. The identification and management of highly productive land is undertaken in an integrated way that considers the interactions with freshwater management and urban development.
4. The use of highly productive land for land-based primary production is prioritised and supported.
8. Highly productive land is protected from inappropriate use and development.
9. Reverse sensitivity effects are managed so as not to constrain land-based primary production activities on highly productive land.

The Proposal is an appropriate use or development of highly productive land, as it is an aggregate extraction activity that has a functional and operational need to use highly productive land and passes the two tests for determining whether such activities can occur (Clause 3.9(2)(j)(iv)). High quality sand from the Site will have significant benefits for the region's infrastructure and housing construction, and the same benefit could not be achieved elsewhere on non-highly productive land. Additionally, the Proposal minimises or mitigates any actual loss or potential cumulative loss highly productive land, avoids or mitigates potential reverse sensitivity effects on land-based primary production activities (Clause 3.9(3)) and will be returned to support land-based primary production at the completion of quarrying activities.

- National Environmental Standard for Freshwater (2020)

The NES for Freshwater sets requirements for carrying out certain activities that pose risks to freshwater and freshwater ecosystems. The standards are designed to:

- Protect existing inland and coastal wetlands.
- Protect urban and rural streams from in-filling.
- Ensure connectivity of fish habitat (fish passage).
- Set minimum requirements for feedlots and other stockholding areas.
- Improve poor practice intensive winter grazing of forage crops.
- Restrict further agricultural intensification until the end of 2024.
- Limit the discharge of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser to land and require reporting of fertiliser use.

As the Proposal involves vegetation clearance, earthworks, land disturbance, and the taking, use, diversion, and discharge of water within and within 100m of natural inland wetlands (floodplain, gully basin and gully seepage wetlands), the proposed sand quarry requires resource consent as a Discretionary Activity under Regulation 45A of the NES for Freshwater.

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## Section 7: Eligibility

Will access to the fast-track process enable the project to be processed in a more timely and cost-efficient way than under normal processes?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

In order for the project to proceed, it requires multiple resource consents, wildlife permits and archaeological authorities to be issued by up to 4 different government organisations under multiple pieces of legislation. The fast track process will reduce the time and cost spent complying with these individual process providing RS Sand with greater certainty on when a decision will be made.

It is highly likely that the resource consent authorities will limited or publicly notify the application which will likely result in Council hearings and the potential for Environment Court appeals. The Fast Track process allows this project to be considered by a panel of experts assessing all identified effects but avoiding the costly and time consuming council/environment court process.

The same can be said for both the Wildlife Permit and Archaeological Authority processes. It is our understanding that Wildlife Permits cannot be lodged or will not be processed until such time as the necessary resource consents have been issued, and following this the Wildlife Permit process can take up to 12 months, with the Department of Conservation being the final arbiter as to whether a permit is issued or not.

The archaeological authority process is similar but within its legislation provides the ability for an appeal of a decision but can still be a costly and time consuming process.

The fast track process enables a single panel of experts to make decisions under multiple pieces of legislation and providing final approval for the project rather than the current piecemeal approach RS Sand is currently navigating.

What is the impact referring this project will have on the efficient operation of the fast-track process?

Please write your answer here:

The resource consent application is complete and with minor amendments required by the fast -track Bill, will be able to be lodged almost immediately.

By way of background, this project has been in preparation since late 2019, with consultation being undertaken with stakeholders, relevant specialists engaged and the appropriate resource consent applications being prepared.

In September of 2020 when the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F) came into force RS Sand found that the proposal became a prohibited activity due to the removal of wetlands within the quarry footprint. There was a hiatus on the application until changes came into force on 5 January 2023, with the introduction of Regulation 45D, allowing for the application to be considered as a Discretionary Activity.

The applications were then lodged in May 2023. The applications have been through a s.92 process with both consenting authorities and at the time of writing the Councils are preparing their notification decisions.

RS Sand have also successfully negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and they have taken a neutral stance within the cultural impact assessment prepared on behalf of Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Haua. This position is also supported by Waikato Tainui.

Has the project been identified as a priority project in a:

Other

Please explain your answer here:

The project has not been specifically identified as a priority project. However, Roads of National Significance (RONS) that have (e.g. Cambridge to Pairere, Southern Links etc) within the Waikato Region will require a secure source of aggregate close to the proposed routes. It is assumed that RONS would be considered for the fast track process where necessary. It is noted that Southern Links is already designated but Cambridge to Pairere is not. By allowing the RS Sand project to be referred to the fast track it will better be able to support the RONS projects construction.

Will the project deliver regionally or nationally significant infrastructure?

National significant infrastructure

Please explain your answer here:

This project is located very close to both the Cambridge to Pairere extension of the Waikato Expressway and the proposed Southern Links road network southwest of Hamilton, both of which have recently been classified as RONS. Both projects are likely to require fill material along the extensive lengths of network proposed and both will require concrete for structures. While the product from this site will be sold to concrete plants within Waikato, Bay of Plenty and potentially Auckland regions it could also be provided directly to the construction sites if on site concrete batching were to occur.

Will the project:

increase the supply of housing, address housing needs, contribute to a well-functioning urban environment

Please explain your answer here:

According to the Aggregate and Quarry Association in 2021 to build an average house, you need about 250 tonnes of aggregate, this will be used in concrete, asphalt, mortar and building products. To continue to supply these products so that they are affordable, quarrying needs to be carried out close to where materials will be used. This keeps transportation costs low and helps to minimise building costs and emissions in local communities.

RS Sand will provide fill material through the pit sand component of the sand resource and processed sand for use in concrete plants and other specialised products, all of which will go into the construction of new dwellings. The pit sand will likely be used locally due to the cost of transport, supporting the identified growth cells and consequential high residential growth within Cambridge and Te Awamutu. The concrete sand will be transported around the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and potentially Auckland where it will be turned into products with a higher value allowing for greater distribution throughout New Zealand supporting the New Zealand construction industry.

Will the project deliver significant economic benefits?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Sand is an essential ingredient in concrete. Concrete is used throughout the urban environment to meet the needs of residential, business and infrastructure requirements. Because sand is a key component in a range of different building applications, much of New Zealand's productive growth is reliant on sand in one form or another. This means that the impact of sand extends significantly further than just the construction sector.

It is important to acknowledge that infrastructure supports economic activity. Further, the quality of infrastructure can support, or undermine, productivity and performance generating additional rounds of economic effects. The impacts of sand extraction (beyond the immediate effects on the construction sector) support growth, enabling the region to cater for future growth in population and lift economic output. It also supports regional economic competitiveness, supporting additional rounds of investment and economic activity. Secure access to enough and appropriately located sand is crucial because it lowers costs and risks.

Significant economic benefits to the local community include, up to 14 people being employed by RS Sand or working for subcontractors carrying out annual or two yearly stripping campaigns. Local subcontractors will be used as much as possible for the setup of the site, stripping, planting and pest



control, fencing, plant construction including electrical and plumbing, machinery hire etc. A significant proportion of the annual operating costs will be spent in the local economy and for local transport operators.

Will the project support primary industries, including aquaculture?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project support development of natural resources, including minerals and petroleum?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

RS Sand has been investigating new sand resources to replace its Bay of Plenty sand operation. This included an extensive search within the Bay of Plenty before investigating the Waikato Region, its market and potential in situ resource.

Through this investigation it was confirmed that while there are multiple sand operations within the region very few offer high quality concrete sand. This was either through not wanting to make the investment in the processing equipment, or through the sand resource itself not being suitable for further processing. It was also noted that a number of the existing sand operations were coming to the end of the lives making investment in these operations not suitable and on this basis a greenfield operation has been pursued.

There are a number of anecdotal stories published in the media about a shortage of aggregate, one of which I have included below regarding the scarcity of sand in the upper north island, see Radio NZ article

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/business/510392/ministerial-intervention-needed-to-solve-sand-shortage> . I note this was published in February 2024.

On 11 April 2024 the Environment Court released its decision on McCallum Bros Ltd vs Auckland Council (ENV-2022-AKL-121), where the appeal on the application to continue an offshore sand extraction consent from the Mangawhai – Pākiri embayment was refused and the decision of the Commissioners in hearing the application was confirmed.

This latest decision by the Environment Court only reinforces the article quoted above and further highlights the shortage of high quality aggregate products within New Zealand given the difficulty of consenting new projects or extending existing projects into new resource areas.

An economics assessment provided by Market Economics on behalf of the applicant stated that the sand supply to Auckland in 2021 was dominated by Pākiri sand and Kaipara sand; 346,600 tonnes and 393,367 tonnes respectively – a total of 739,967 tonnes. However, as the Pakiri sand extraction has now been declined by the Environment Court (referenced above) it will need to be appealed to the High Court and/or a Fast Track application made in order for this extraction to continue in the future. The existing extraction consents from the Kaipara resource expire in 2027 and a renewal process will need to occur to secure this aggregate supply. These current issues add further weight to the argument that new aggregate resources need to be provided in order to provide security of supply for our infrastructure, construction/housing markets into the future.

Will the project support climate change mitigation, including the reduction or removal of greenhouse gas emissions?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Concrete products are an important contributor to climate change mitigation projects, such as green energy production, coastal erosion protection structures, sea walls and flood protection devices etc. The ability to secure high quality sources of sand is key to the market being able to continue to be able to provide concrete products for this mitigation work.

While the sand itself will support regional markets in the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and potentially Auckland, its use in valuable concrete products (bridge piers, decks, pipes, wing walls for erosion protection etc) means those products can be pre-fabricated and then transported all over New Zealand for use in infrastructure/construction projects.

Will the project support adaptation, resilience, and recovery from natural hazards?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Concrete products are a key construction material when both building resilience and in the recovery from natural hazard events. As can be seen with the Hawkes Bay and Tairāwhiti regions following the cyclone events of 2023, significant reconstruction and resilience works will be required to both replace and improve the regions ability to withstand similar weather events. Concrete products will contribute to the construction of new bridges reconnecting communities, rebuilding and protecting our transport network as well as contributing to new or replacement dwellings for those lost. Without high quality sand resources to provide this ingredient, this reconstruction and resilience building task will become much harder, take longer and cost more.

While the sand itself will support regional markets in the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and potentially Auckland, its use in valuable concrete products (bridge piers, decks, pipes, wing walls for erosion protection etc) means those products can be pre-fabricated and then transported all over New Zealand for use in infrastructure/construction projects.

Will the project address significant environmental issues?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Aggregate products provide the construction materials (including concrete) for many projects that seek to address environmental issues.

In order to meet New Zealand's current target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 new green energy supplies are being investigated and a number are currently working their way through the resource consent process, including wind farms and solar farms. These projects require significant amounts of concrete for their foundation works to support turbines and solar panel racks and accessory to this, any significant overhead transmission lines require the same for their foundations.

High quality sand is also used extensively within the three waters networks, coastal and inland erosion protection structures and flood defences where concrete structures are used to both convey water/waste/stormwater as well defend against waters effect on coastal or inland communities susceptible to flooding.

Is the project consistent with local or regional planning documents, including spatial strategies?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

As applications have been lodged with both the Waipā District and Waikato Regional Councils, local and regional planning documents have been assessed. This includes:

- The Waikato Regional Policy Statement
- Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato
- Waikato Regional Plan
- Waipā District Plan
- Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao / Waikato Tainui Environmental Plan
- Te Rautaki Tāmata Ao Turoa a Hauaa / Ngaati Hauaa Environmental Management Plan
- Future Proof – Subregional Growth Strategy

The Proposal will achieve integrated management of natural and physical resources by avoiding, remedying, mitigating and compensating the potential effects on the values of water body catchments, riparian areas, wetlands and natural processes, while providing sand for future generations to provide for their social and economic wellbeing, and contribute to the built environment.

A range of ecosystem types have been identified on the Site and measures are proposed to avoid, remedy, mitigate and compensate the effects of the Proposal so the contribution to regional wellbeing is maintained and ecosystems are healthy and functional.

As identified in the responses above, sand resources are running out both locally and regionally. Therefore, the proposed sand quarry will provide a much needed mineral resource for infrastructure and building developments within the Waikato region. Subject to appropriate conditions of consent, the potential adverse effects of the Proposal will be managed.

To understand and manage or protect cultural heritage areas across the Site, RS Sand have consulted with Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa and commissioned a CIA and Archaeological Assessment. Representatives from Ngaati Korokii-Kahukura and Ngaati Hauaa have visited the Site on two occasions and shared the history and cultural connections of the area.

While there are no archaeological sites currently recorded within the Proposal area, an archaeological authority will be obtained from HNZPT for works with 40m of the Karapiro Stream gully to ensure unrecorded sites, wāhi tapu or other taonga are identified.

The proposal is consistent with the objectives and policies of the above policy and strategy documents. The proposed sand quarry will achieve integrated management of natural and resources physical resources, while avoiding, remedying, mitigating and compensating potential adverse effects on ecosystems, air quality, fresh water, historic and cultural heritage, natural character and amenity values, natural hazards and soil resource.

Anything else?

Please write your answer here:

Does the project includes an activity which would make it ineligible?

No

If yes, please explain:

## Section 8: Climate change and natural hazards

Will the project be affected by climate change and natural hazards?

No

If yes, please explain:

## Section 9: Track record

Please add a summary of all compliance and/or enforcement actions taken against the applicant by any entity with enforcement powers under the Acts referred to in the Bill, and the outcome of those actions.

Please write your answer here:

None

Load your file here:

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## Declaration

Do you acknowledge your submission will be published on environment.govt.nz if required

Yes

By typing your name in the field below you are electronically signing this application form and certifying the information given in this application is true and correct.

Please write your name here:

Christian McDean

Important notes