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24 June 2024

Attention: Kowhai Dalton, Principal Regional Advisor – Tai Tokerau

Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment
15 Stout Street, Wellington 6011

MBIE FAST-TRACK LISTING APPLICATION FOR SHIPYARD AND DRY DOCK FACILITY: NORTHPORT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Context

You have asked that Northport provide confirmation, as owner and port operator at Marsden Point, that it is “aware and comfortable” that MBIE is the applicant for a proposed shipyard and dry dock facility at Marsden Point (“dry dock facility”).

Northport position

Northport is aware that MBIE has made an application for a dry dock facility at Marsden Point to be listed in the Government’s Fast-track Approvals Bill. Northport understands that the dry dock facility proposal will include dredging and reclamation and will likely require access to (or via) the Northport facility.

As adjoining owner and port operator, Northport is strongly supportive of a proposal for a dry dock facility at Marsden Point. In broad terms, Northport supports well-designed projects to enhance infrastructure capacity and stimulate growth in the Northland region. A dry dock facility at Marsden Point could complement Northport’s existing and planned port operations and provide significant positive benefits for the Northland region and New Zealand.

At this time, Northport has not been provided with a copy of MBIE’s application. As such, Northport has a limited understanding of what is proposed and how it may affect Northport’s current or future operations. Northport’s general support for the proposed dry dock facility is therefore subject to a better understanding of its scope and potential effects; and confirmation that the proposed dry dock facility will not interfere with current and future operations by Northport, including its ‘Vision for Growth’ port expansion project for which it is currently seeking resource consents.

Subject to gaining a more detailed understanding of the MBIE application, and resolution of any potential issues (including operational constraints), Northport would be prepared to facilitate access to enable the construction of the proposed dry dock facility.

Conclusion

Northport, as adjoining landowner, is strongly supportive of the proposal for a dry dock facility and looks forward to assisting MBIE as they progress this application.

Should you wish to further discuss any issues in relation to this matter, please contact the writer.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Jagger', with a stylized, cursive script.

Murray Jagger
Chair