



BRF-30

9 June 2021

Ministers of/for:

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

Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Ministers

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on application for referral – Drury Central and Paerata Stations

I have received an application to refer a project to an expert consenting panel (a 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 aim 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 and meet Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

The project is described in the enclosed schedule, and a copy of the application is electronically attached.

I invite you under section 21(2) of the FTCA to provide written comments on the referral application. I note that if the project is referred to a panel, the applicant will be able to lodge the application with the Environmental Protection Authority for the approvals needed under the Resource Management Act 1991. A more detailed environmental assessment and cultural impact assessment will be required as part of the application. 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 making a decision on whether or not to accept the application and refer the project to a panel.

Yours sincerely

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

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Enclosure:

- A. Schedule of proposed project
- B. Application to refer Drury Central and Paerata Stations to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982

Appendix A - Schedule of proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Drury Central and Paerata Stations	KiwiRail Holdings Limited	<p>The project is to construct, upgrade, protect, operate and maintain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a railway station, including rail platforms, buildings and structures, on the North Island Main Trunk railway line at Drury a railway station, including rail platforms, buildings and structures, on the North Island Main Trunk railway line at Paerata transport interchange facilities at both station locations including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> park and ride areas train and bus interchange and layovers accessways, paths and plazas cycle parking facilities. <p>The project also includes the following works to provide access to the stations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> realignment and upgrading of Flanagan Road, and upgrading of Waihoehoe Road at Drury a new rail overbridge and access point to, and upgrading of, State Highway 22 at Paerata. <p>The Project will involve activities such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> vegetation clearance removal or demolition of structures/buildings earthworks, including the disturbance of potentially contaminated soils works for the purposes of 'specified infrastructure' within and near a natural wetland construction of temporary and permanent stormwater management and treatment facilities disturbance of, and structures within, stream beds (including construction of bridges, culverts and culvert extensions) diversion and discharge of water and stormwater take, use and diversion of groundwater reclamation of a part of a stream construction of rail platforms, buildings and associated structures (including operational and public facilities, office and retail spaces) construction of interchange parking areas, buildings and associated structures landscaping, including plantings and installation of art construction of three waters services and roading infrastructure operation of the railway stations, transport interchanges and all associated facilities.