



BRF-229

12 July 2021

Kiwirail Holdings Limited
C/- Natasha Rivai

s 9(2)(a)

Dear Natasha Rivai

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 - Notice of Decisions (Section 25) – Drury Central and Paerata Stations

Thank you for your application under section 20 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA) seeking referral of the Drury Central and Paerata Stations project to an expert consenting panel (a panel) for consideration under the FTCA.

The project is to develop new railway stations and associated transport interchange facilities at two separate sites in south Auckland. The first site, for the Drury Central Station, is located to the southeast of Drury township on multiple landholdings accessed off Great South Road, Flanagan Road and Waihoehoe Road. The second site, for the Paerata Station, is located at Paerata (approximately 3 kilometres north of Pukekohe) on multiple landholdings accessed off State Highway 22, Paerata Road and Sim Road.

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 the 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 have decided the project meets the referral criteria in section 18 of the FTCA and I consider it will help to achieve the FTCA's purpose as it has the potential to:

1. have positive effects on the social wellbeing of current and future generations given that the project will provide improved access to rail services, reduce road safety risks and save travel time
2. generate employment by providing 27-40 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in 2021 in the planning, engineering, and design phase, and 200-332 FTE jobs in construction and construction management between 2021 and 2024

3. provide infrastructure in order to improve economic, employment, and environmental outcomes, and increase productivity by reducing congestion and supporting growth in the southern growth area of Auckland
4. contribute to New Zealand's efforts to mitigate climate change and transition more quickly to a low-emissions economy (in terms of reducing New Zealand's net emissions of greenhouse gases as it will reduce the reliance on cars).

Any actual and potential adverse effects arising from the project, together with any measures to avoid, remedy, mitigate, offset or compensate for adverse effects, could be tested by a panel against Part 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991 and the purpose of the FTCA (section 4 and clause 31 Schedule 6).

Accordingly, I have decided to accept your application for referral under section 24(2) of the FTCA and refer all of the project to a panel.

Information required to be submitted with your resource consent applications and notices of requirement

In accordance with section 24(2)(d) of the FTCA, I have also decided that you must provide the information listed in Appendix A of this letter with any resource consent applications and notices of requirement for the project lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under clause 2 Schedule 6.

I draw your attention to clause 14 Schedule 6 of the FTCA that details that the information listed in Appendix A of this letter must be provided in sufficient detail to correspond to the scale and significance of effects. You should therefore provide what you believe is a reasonable level of information, and if a panel requires further information, they can seek it from you under clause 25 Schedule 6 of the FTCA.

This information will inform a panel's assessment of the proposal's effects and whether to invite comment from persons or groups in addition to those specified in clause 17 Schedule 6 of the FTCA. This does not preclude a panel from requiring you to provide any additional information on any application lodged with the EPA under the FTCA.

Persons or groups a panel must invite comments from

In accordance with section 24(2)(e) of the FTCA, I have also decided that a panel must invite comments on any resource consent applications and notices of requirement for the project lodged with the EPA from the following persons or groups additional to those specified in clause 17 Schedule 6 of the FTCA:

1. Watercare Services Limited
2. Auckland Transport
3. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency
4. Ngāti Koheriki Claims Committee.

This will allow those parties the opportunity to have input into the consideration of the application and enable a panel to better understand the potential effects of the proposal.

These directions do not preclude a panel from inviting any other parties to comment on any application lodged with the EPA under the FTCA.

The FTCA requires that:

1. I provide a copy of my decisions to the persons, entities and groups specified in section 25(1) and (2) of the FTCA
2. my decisions, the reasons for them, 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.

In addition, I have also decided to provide a copy of this decision to Ngāti Koheriki Claims Committee.

I will progress an Order in Council through the Executive Council for the project. Once this Order is made you will be able to lodge your applications for resource consent and notices of requirement for designations with the EPA for a decision by a panel. The decision to approve or decline the resource consents and designations is a matter for the panel appointed by the Panel Convener Judge L J Newhook. You should not take my decision to refer the project as an indication or direction that the determination of those approvals will be successful. Additionally, my decision does not in any way endorse any related or concurrent planning decisions (such as zoning decisions) that may affect the project.

Please do not publicly release my decision or this notice until the Order in Council for this project has been approved by Cabinet and notified in the New Zealand Gazette.

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



Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

cc 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; and Climate Change

Associate Minister for:

Environment (Urban Development)

Local authorities:

Auckland Council

Other parties:

Watercare Services Limited; Auckland Transport; Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency

Relevant iwi authority/ies and Treaty settlement entity/ies:

Ngāti Koheriki Claims Committee

Environmental Protection Authority

The Panel Convener

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982

Appendix A – Requirements specific to the application lodged by Kiwirail Holdings Limited for Drury Central and Paerata Stations

Information required to be submitted with your application

In accordance with section 24(2)(d) of the FTCA, I have also decided that you must provide the following information with any application:

1. an assessment of the historic heritage values of the project sites and the impacts of development on those values
2. clarification of which iwi authorities and any other Māori groups representing tangata whenua views have been engaged with to date in relation to the project, and the extent and outcomes of that engagement
3. the methodology and assumptions used to calculate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions savings/reductions provided in Table 9-11 of the referral application supporting document titled 'South Auckland Drury Central and Paerata Stations – COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track) Consenting Act 2020 Referral Request, Version 1', dated April 2021
4. an analysis of GHG impacts over time, including:
 - GHG emissions impact under different future growth/land use scenarios
 - opportunities to further enhance connection to multi-modal infrastructure
 - impacts of delayed electrification of the rail network in the project area
5. the methodology and/or assumptions used by the applicant to determine economic benefits (including carbon impacts and climate benefits, if any) provided in Table 9-1 of the referral application supporting document titled 'South Auckland Drury Central and Paerata Stations – COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track) Consenting Act 2020 Referral Request, Version 1', dated April 2021. If climate impacts/benefits are determined in the economic analysis, provide any shadow carbon prices and/or discount rates used
6. a preliminary site investigation report done in accordance with the Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011
7. a flood-hazard assessment for the Drury Central site including modelling to identify impacts of the upstream catchment, and consideration of whether attenuation is necessary (including calculations and sizing).