



18 NOV 2020

2020-B-07281

Karen Williams  
Senior Planner  
The Property Group  
s 9(2)(a)

Dear Karen Williams

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 - Notice of Decision (Section 25)  
– Eastern Porirua Regeneration Project – Infrastructure Works**

Thank you for your application to refer Eastern Porirua Regeneration Project - Infrastructure Works to an expert consenting panel for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act).

This application is for a project that will upgrade water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure in eastern Porirua to support the Eastern Porirua Regeneration Project and other urban development. It consists of three components, the construction of an additional water reservoir, the replacement of a wastewater main, and the construction of a wetland in Cannons Creek Park.

I have considered the application, a report on Treaty of Waitangi obligations, comments received from relevant local authorities, Ministers, Wellington Water and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and further information provided by yourself on behalf of the applicant.

Having considered this information, and the requirements of sections 18 and 19 of the Act, I have made a decision, under section 24(2) of the Act to **accept** your application for referral as the project is eligible for referral (under section 18) and I am satisfied that the project will help to achieve the Act's purpose for the following reasons.

1. It will provide 55 to 110 jobs in its first two years of construction and up to 260 in the second two years of construction (s 19(a) and s 19(d)(i))
2. It will provide infrastructure that supports the improvement of environmental outcomes by increasing the capacity of three water infrastructure in eastern Porirua, enabling future urban growth and addressing existing capacity and performance issues for infrastructure (s 19(d)(iv))
3. It is likely to improve environmental outcomes for freshwater quality in the long term as it will reduce wastewater overflows and may improve stormwater quality (s 19(d)(v))
4. Any potential adverse effects arising from the application and mitigation measures can be considered and determined by an expert consenting panel, having regard to Part 2 of the RMA and the purpose of the Act (s 19(e)).

### *Information requirements*

I am required under the Act to seek comments on applications from relevant local authorities. Greater Wellington Regional Council and Porirua City Council (in their capacity as a consenting authority) commented on the reports or assessments that would be needed to support this application. I have listed these reports and assessments in Appendix A to this decision letter.

Under section 24(2)(d) of the Act, as part of this approval I require you to provide these reports and assessments with your application to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). Providing these reports and assessments to the EPA will streamline their consideration of your application.

### *Additional people the expert consenting panel will seek comment from*

The expert consenting panel must invite comments from the people listed in Schedule 6 clause 6 of the Act.

In addition to these people I have also decided, under s 24(2)(e), to direct the expert consenting panel to invite comments from the following community groups:

1. Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira Incorporated Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust
2. Ranui Residents Association
3. Creeksiders (Cannons Creek) Residents Association
4. Aotea Residents Association

I have directed the expert consenting panel to seek comment from these groups to ensure community concerns can be considered. I have chosen these groups on the recommendation on Porirua City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council.

As required by the Act, I am providing a copy of this decision to the persons, entities and groups specified in section 25(2).

Please do not release my decision or this notice publicly until the Order in Council for this project has been approved by Cabinet. Please contact officials at the Ministry for the Environment ([fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz](mailto: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

## APPENDIX A - INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS (SECTION 24(2)(d) OF THE ACT)

- an Ecological Assessment that specifically includes the assessment of short and long term effects on the Porirua Stream and Kenepuru Stream, the Significant Natural Areas within Bothamley Park and Cannons Creek Park, and downstream effects on Porirua harbour
- a contaminated sites assessment
- a Traffic Impact Assessment which includes Traffic Management Plans
- a Cultural Impact Assessment carried out by an author approved by the mana whenua of the Kenepuru Stream
- an assessment on whether the proposed infrastructure will meet current and future demand from urban growth
- an assessment outlining the effects the proposed works may have on the hydrology of Kenepuru and Porirua Stream, including flooding, erosion and scour
- an assessment of positive effects of the proposal, supported by appropriate technical information, including any net benefits to water quality from the proposed wetland in Cannons Creek Park and an assessment of any adverse effects from dewatering
- a landscape and visual assessment of the proposed reservoir
- a Construction Management Plan for the proposed works and a detailed Erosion and Sediment Control Plan that specifically outlines what measures will be taken to avoid or mitigate effects, including the discharge of sediment, on Kenepuru and Porirua Streams, the Significant Natural Areas, any natural wetlands, and Porirua Harbour. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan must be prepared in consultation with Ngāti Toa in recognition of their kaitiaki role over the harbour (as recognised under the Crown's settlement with Ngāti Toa)
- a Masterplan of Bothamley Park and Cannons Creek Park to ensure integration of the Wastewater Trunk main upgrade and wetland with the wider improvements being considered for the park including:
  - cycleways
  - recreation areas and facilities
  - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
  - safety upgrades and improved access.