

BRF-2932

Nicole Rosie
Chief Executive Officer
Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Nicole Rosie

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – Maraekakaho Quarry Project

The Minister for the Environment (Minister) has received an application from R W and M C Gale Family Trust to refer the Maraekakaho Quarry Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (a panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

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 certainty of investment while continuing to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

The project is described in Appendix A and the application documents are in Attachment 1.

Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency may have an interest in the project because the site adjacent to State Highway 50. Under delegated authority from the Minister and pursuant to section 21(3) of the FTCA, I invite your written comments on the referral application. A template is provided for this purpose in Attachment 2.

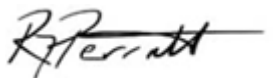
The above information is provided to you in confidence and as part of the statutory process set out in the FTCA. Please do not forward the application or request for comments to anyone outside your organisation.

If the Minister accepts the application and the project are referred to a panel, the applicant will be able to lodge applications with the Environmental Protection Authority for the approvals needed under the Resource Management Act 1991. The applicant must provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects and cultural impact assessment(s) as part of this process.

Please provide comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister takes them into consideration when deciding whether or not to accept the referral application. Note that the Minister is not required to consider any comments provided after this time.

If you would like more information about the fast-track consenting process, or to discuss the application, please contact the Ministry for the Environment's Fast-track Consenting Team at fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz to arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca Perrett
Acting Manager, Fast-track Consenting Team

Appendix:

- A. Details of proposed project

Attachments:

1. Application to refer the Maraekakaho Quarry Project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information (Databox link in covering email)
2. Response template for written comments

cc: Sonya McCall, Team Lead, Environmental Planning, [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Jenni Fitzgerald, Manager, Environmental Planning, [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
EnvironmentalPlanning@nzta.govt.nz

Appendix A - Proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Maraekakaho Quarry Project	R W and M C Gale Family Trust	<p>The project is to establish and operate a quarry on approximately 29.2 hectares of land at State Highway 50, Maraekakaho, Hawkes Bay. The project will include extraction of up to 6.42 million cubic metres of gravel aggregate over a period of up to 20 years, stockpiling processed aggregate on site, construction of infrastructure, including upgrading an existing vehicle access off State Highway 50, and structures associated with quarry operations and site remediation upon completion. The processing of the gravel aggregate will be undertaken on an adjacent site immediately to the north of the project site under existing consents granted by held by Russel Roads Limited.</p> <p>The project involves activities such as removing vegetation, extracting and stockpiling gravel aggregate, taking, diverting and discharging groundwater and discharging to land and water, diverting the surface water of the Ngaruroro River during flood events, discharging stormwater and contaminants to land and water, undertaking earthworks, undertaking remediation including creating artificial lakes and landscaping and planting, constructing roads and vehicle accessways, constructing or installing infrastructure or structures, storing hazardous materials.</p>