



2020-B-07137

16 September 2020

Minister for Regional Economic Development
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Shane

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on application for referral

This letter is sent to you pursuant to section 21(2) of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act).

The aim of the Act is to urgently promote employment to support Aotearoa'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.

I have recently an application for the Ohinewai Foam Factory project for referral under the Act. The proposed project is described in the enclosed schedule, and a copy of the application is electronically attached.

I invite you to provide written comments on the proposed project under section 21(2) of the Act. I note that if this project is referred to an expert consenting panel for determination, the applicant will then be required to lodge a more detailed application including an environmental assessment and cultural impact assessment with the Environmental Protection Authority. You will have a further opportunity at that stage to provide comments on the application to the expert consenting 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 to refer the applications to an expert consenting panel.

Yours sincerely

A blue ink signature of David Parker.

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Enclosures:

- A. Schedule of proposed project
- B. Application to refer Ohinewai Foam Factory project to an expert consenting panel
- C. Written comment template

Appendix A - Schedule of proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Ohinewai Foam Factory, Ohinewai	Ambury Properties Limited	<p>This project is for the construction and operation of a foam factory and associated rail siding and road realignment in Ohinewai, Waikato.</p> <p>This project is part of a wider development proposed by the applicant that will further expand the factory and provide housing to employees and wider Ohinewai residents. The wider development is currently being heard in a Plan Change Hearing on the Waikato Proposed District Plan Review.</p>