

Hon David Parker BCom, LLB

Attorney-General

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Oceans and Fisheries

Minister of Revenue

Associate Minister of Finance



2020-B-07335

18 December 2020

Ministers of/for:

Infrastructure; Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti; Housing; Education; Arts, Culture, and Heritage; Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations; Local Government; Land Information; Economic and Regional Development; Defence; Transport; and Climate Change

Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Ministers

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on application for referral - Port of Tauranga Stella Passage Wharves and Dredging Project

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

The aim of the FTCA 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.

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

On behalf of myself and the Minister of Conservation, I invite you to provide written comments on the proposed project under section 21(2) of the FTCA. We 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 would like us to take them into consideration when making a decision on whether to refer the application to an expert consenting panel.

Yours sincerely



Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Enclosures:

- A. Schedule of proposed project
- B. Application to refer Port of Tauranga Stella Passage Wharves & Dredging Project 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
<p>Port of Tauranga Stella Passage Wharves & Dredging Project</p>	<p>Port of Tauranga Limited</p>	<p>The project is for extension of the Sulphur Point and Mount Maunganui wharves, and to carry out the associated reclamation and dredging of the seabed.</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to increase the Port's capacity to manage growth in cargo volumes and vessel sizes without changing its overall footprint. The applicant states this will ensure the Port can continue to meet New Zealand's demand for export and import cargo volumes.</p> <p>The Sulphur Point wharf, on the west side of the channel, will be extended by 385 metres and will require 1.8 hectares reclamation. The Mount Maunganui wharf, on the east side, will be extended by 920 metres and will require 2.9 hectares reclamation.</p> <p>The seabed in the shipping channel between the wharves will be dredged to accommodate the increase in shipping that will be enabled by the wharf extensions. The area covers 14.4 hectares and involves up to 1,800,000 cubic metres of dredged material, of which 5.9 hectares and 800,000 cubic metres is already consented.</p>

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