

Hon David Parker BCom, LLB

Attorney-General

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Oceans and Fisheries

Minister of Revenue

Associate Minister of Finance



BRF-2936

Ministers of/for:

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

Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Ministers

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – Rotokauri Greenway and Minor Arterial Project

Hounsell Holdings Limited and Hamilton City Council have applied to refer the Rotokauri Greenway and Minor Arterial Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA). This letter is sent to you pursuant to section 21(2) of the FTCA.

The purpose of the FTCA is to urgently 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.

I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application. If I accept the application and the project is referred, the applicant will be able to lodge applications with the Environmental Protection Authority for the approvals needed under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) for the project, and a panel will be appointed to consider and decide them. The applicants must provide a more detailed environmental assessment and cultural impact assessment(s) as part of their RMA applications. You will have an opportunity at that stage to provide comments to the panel.

Please provide your comments via return email within 10 working days if you wish me to take them into consideration when deciding whether or not to accept the referral application.

Yours sincerely

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Appendix:

A. Description of proposed project

Attachments:

1. Application to refer the Rotokauri Greenway and Minor Arterial Project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information (Databox link in covering email)
2. Template for response

Appendix A - Proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Rotokauri Greenway and Minor Arterial Project	Hounsell Holdings Limited	<p>The project is to construct certain aspects of a 4.7-kilometre stormwater management corridor (Rotokauri Greenway) between Lake Waiwhakareke and Lake Rotokauri and a 3.8-kilometre transport corridor (Minor Arterial) between Te Wetini Drive and 153 Te Kowhai Road, Rotokauri, Hamilton. The project will include construction of artificial wetlands, landscaping and planting, upgrading the Rotokauri Drain and culvert below Exelby Road, and constructing three-waters infrastructure including a watermain, wastewater pipeline and pump station.</p> <p>The project will include activities such as vegetation clearance, carrying out earthworks including disturbing contaminated soils, constructing artificial wetlands, constructing and upgrading roads constructing three waters infrastructure, taking, damming, diverting and discharging surface and groundwater, and installing culverts in a watercourse.</p>