

BRF-426

23 August 2021

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

Dear Nicole

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – Silverlight Studios Accommodation – Comments sought

In the week commencing Monday 2 August 2021, Silverlight Studios Limited applied to the Minister for the Environment (the Minister) to refer the Silverlight Studios Accommodation project to an expert consenting panel (a panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

The Project is described below, and a link to all application documents is provided in the covering email.

The Silverlight Studios Accommodation project (Project) is located at 707 Wanaka - Luggate Highway (State Highway 6), approximately 7km to the east of Wanaka township.

The Project is to develop and operate approximately 300 residential units (apartments) to be used for cast and crew, and for visitor accommodation when not required for studio use, as part of the Silverlight Studios project.

I decided to refer the Silverlight Studios project for a film studio complex for the same site on 14 December 2020. The scope of that project did not include any on-site residential or visitor accommodation as the applicant considered it could be provided elsewhere in the local area. The Silverlight Studios project is now included as Schedule 10 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Order 2020 and the applicant lodged consent applications for the Silverlight Studio project with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on 27 July 2021. The current application seeks to include residential and visitor accommodation in this project.

The applicant is seeking land use consents under the Operative and Proposed Queenstown Lakes District Plan, to be determined for the Project through the fast-track process.

You have been identified as a party who may have an interest in the project due to the proposed site access off State Highway 6. On behalf of the Minister and pursuant to section 21(3) of the FTCA, I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application. A template is attached for this purpose.

Please provide your comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister will take your comments into consideration when deciding on the referral application. Note that the Minister is not required to consider any comments provided after this time.

If the Minister decides to refer the Project to a panel, the applicant will provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects with any resource consent applications that they lodge with the panel.

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

This 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 the request for comments to anyone outside your organisation.

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Frame
Manager, Fast-Track Consenting Team

Enclosures:

- A. Response template for written comments

cc. Jenni Fitzgerald, Manager Environmental Planning
Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency, s 9(2)(a)

Sonya McCall, Team Lead Environmental Planning
Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency, s 9(2)(a)

EnvironmentalPlanning@nzta.govt.nz