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2020-B-07332

Jessica Andrew General Counsel Environment and RMA Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency s 9(2)(a)

Dear Jessica

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 - Proposed Retirement Village, Waikanae - Comments sought

In the week commencing 30 November 2020, the Minister for the Environment (the Minister) received an application to refer the above project to an expert consenting panel for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

The project is described below, and a copy of the application and the transport assessment report provided by the applicant is attached.

Proposed Retirement Village, Waikanae

This project involves the construction and operation of a retirement village in Waikanae (the Project).

The Project will include the following activities:

- bulk earthworks for roading and building platforms
- works on contaminated land and remediation
- diversion of water into wetlands
- discharge of stormwater and contaminants
- forest and vegetation clearance and offset planting and landscaping
- establishment of reserves for access and amenity
- establishment of supporting infrastructure (roading, pedestrian linkages, parking, water, wastewater, stormwater including stormwater ponds)
- establishment of signage to identify and promote the village
- other associated works within the Project scope.

The applicant is seeking land use consents and water and discharge permits for the Project.

You have been identified as an agency that may have an interest in the Project as the Project may require works within the designation for State Highway 1.

Under delegated authority from the Minister, I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application pursuant to section 21(2) of the FTCA (a template is attached for this purpose).

If it is more efficient to discuss this application, please contact me or my team at fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz and we will make a time to contact you.

We note that if the Minister decides to refer the Project to a panel, applicants will provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects at the next stage.

Please provide your comments via return email no later than 10 working days so that the Minister can take your comments into consideration when deciding on the application.

Yours sincerely

Sara Clarke

Manager, Fast-Track Consenting Team

Enclosures:

- A. Application to refer Proposed Retirement Village, Waikanae to an expert consenting panel including supporting information.
- B. Response template for written comments.