

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT OF NEW ZEALAND
CHRISTCHURCH REGISTRY**

**I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
ŌTAUTAHI ROHE**

ENV-2020-CHC-127

UNDER the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)
IN THE MATTER of the Water Permits Plan Change - Plan Change 7, being
part of a proposal of national significance directed by the
Minister for the Environment to be referred to the
Environment Court under section 142(2)(b) of the RMA

AND

IN THE MATTER of an application under section 149T of the RMA

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL
Applicant

**RECOMMENDED DECISIONS ON SUBMISSIONS AND FURTHER
SUBMISSIONS OF TOM DE PELSEMAEKER ON BEHALF OF THE OTAGO
REGIONAL COUNCIL
14 December 2020**

Applicant's Solicitor
PO Box 4341 CHRISTCHURCH 8140
DX WX11179
Tel +64 3 379 7622
Fax +64 379 2467

WYNNWILLIAMS

Solicitor: P A C Maw / M A Mehlhopt
(philip.maw@wynnwilliams.co.nz /
michelle.mehlhopt@wynnwilliams.co.nz)

Introduction

- 1 My full name is Tom Willy De Pelsemaeker.
- 2 I am Team Leader Freshwater and Land at Otago Regional Council (**Council** or **ORC**).
- 3 My qualifications and experience are set out in my Statement of Evidence dated 7 December 2020.

Code of Conduct

- 4 I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses as contained in the Environment Court Practice Note 2014. I have complied with the Code of Conduct when preparing my written statement of evidence and will do so when I give oral evidence.
- 5 The data, information, facts and assumptions I have considered in forming my opinions are set out in my evidence. The reasons for the opinions expressed are also set out in my evidence.
- 6 Other than where I state I am relying on the evidence of another person, my evidence is within my area of expertise. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express.

Recommended decisions on submissions

- 7 My Evidence in Chief was filed with the Environment Court on 7 December 2020 which included a tracked change version of the plan as Appendix 2 incorporating my recommendations on submissions.
- 8 In its Minute dated 20 November 2020, the Environment Court advised that it would be assisted by my recommendations being assembled in a way that can be correlated with the table summary of submissions and further submissions. At the pre-hearing conference held on 27 November 2020, the Court directed that I provide this table by 14 December 2020.
- 9 Stantec prepared a summary of submissions table for the Environmental Protection Authority (**EPA**) which was publicly notified by the EPA for further submissions and provided to the Environment Court. The further submissions lodged have been incorporated into the table and a new

column added with my recommended decisions on submissions and further submissions, being either 'accept', 'accept in part' or 'reject'. This table is attached as **Appendix 1** and is ordered by provision for ease of reference.

Dated this 14th day of December 2020



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Tom De Pelsemaeker

APPENDIX 1

Recommended decisions on submissions table