

IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT OF NEW ZEALAND
WELLINGTON REGISTRY

I MUA I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
TE WHANGANUI-Ā-TARA ROHE

ENV-2023-WLG-000005

Under the **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**

In the matter of the direct referral of applications for resource consents and notices of requirement under sections 87G and 198E of the Act for the Ōtaki to North of Levin project

By **NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY-WAKA KOTAHI**

Applicant

JOINT STATEMENT OF WATER ABSTRACTION EXPERTS

26 July 2023

INTRODUCTION

1. This joint witness statement relates to expert conferencing on the topic of water abstraction.
2. This joint witness statement relates to the application by the New Zealand Transport Agency-Waka Kotahi (**Waka Kotahi**) for resource consents and notices of requirement under sections 87G and 198E of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**) for the Ōtaki to North of Levin project (**Project**).
3. The expert conferencing was held on 26 July 2023, facilitated by Environment Commissioner Buchanan.
4. Attendees at the conference were:
 - (a) Jack McConchie (Waka Kotahi);
 - (b) Mike Thompson (GWRC);
 - (c) Michaela Stout (Horizons);
 - (d) Siobhan Karaitiana (Muaūpoko witness);
 - (e) Justin Tamihana (Ngāti Raukawa witness); and
 - (f) Logan Brown (Horizons and GWRC)

CODE OF CONDUCT

5. This joint statement is prepared in accordance with section 9.4 of the Environment Court Practice Note 2023.
6. We confirm that we have read the Environment Court Practice Note 2023 and agree to abide by it.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF CONFERENCING

7. The purpose of conferencing was to identify, discuss, and highlight points of agreement and disagreement on water abstraction issues arising from the Project.
8. **Annexure A** records recommended changes to conditions agreed by all experts present. All experts are now comfortable with the full suite of conditions related the abstraction of construction water subject to the additions and amendments to the conditions in Annexure A. Ecological

effects of the takes will be dealt with at the freshwater ecology expert conference.

9. The attendees agree that the primary data, methodologies and standards, and key facts and assumptions are as set out in the Assessment of Environmental Effects for the Project and the associated Appendices and Technical Assessments.

Date: 26 July 2023



Jack McConchie



Mike Thompson



Michaela Stout



Siobhan Karaitiana



Justin Tamihana



Logan Brown

ANNEXURE A – EXPERT CONFERENCING ON WATER ABSTRACTION

Participants: Jack McConchie (JM), Mike Thompson (MT), Michaela Stout (MS), Siobhan Karaitiana (SK), Justin Tamihana (JT), Logan Brown (LB)

| Issue | General discussion | Agreed Position | Disagreements or reservations, with reasons |
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| Core allocation | | <p>All agree to amend RWT1(a)(i) condition to say "an annual average of 2350m³" and bullet point (ii) remains the same.</p> <p>All agree to amend RWT-1.2 to say "between the minimum and median flows, the rate of abstraction should not exceed 10% of the 1 hour average flow measured at 6am adjusted for losses or gains between the hydrometric site and the point of abstraction using a methodology agreed with the consenting authorities". This would be the condition for all the Koputaroa, Waikawa, and Waitohu, except the Waitohu would have an additional requirement that the maximum rate abstraction cannot exceed 37.5L/s.</p> <p>The condition for the Manakau and Waiauti stream is "between the minimum and median flows, the rate of abstraction should not exceed 10% of the 1 hour average flow measured at 6am once adjusted for the effect of catchment area</p> | |

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| | <p>using a methodology agreed with the consenting authorities".</p> <p>All agree to amend table RWT-1.1 – the maximum extraction value from the Waikawa Stream should be 2998m³ per day not 3100m³ per day.</p> | |
| <p>Supplementary allocation</p> | <p>All agree to amend RWT1(c) to include the words after 'median flows' "determined by the consenting authority".</p> <p>All agree to amend RWT-1.4 Waitohu to replace the word "median" with "trigger value determined by the consent authority".</p> <p>All agree to modify RWT-1.4 to add a sentence to the end of the abstraction parameters for each of the 5 water bodies that says "Any abstraction under the supplementary allocation cannot reduce the residual flow below the median".</p> <p>All agree to amend RWT-1.4 Manakau and Waiauti Stream to say "When flow measured at Horizons' hydrometric site exceeds the median, up to 10% of the preceding 3-hourly average flow can be abstracted as a supplementary allocation for the next 3-hours, once adjusted for the</p> | |

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| | <p>effect of the catchment area in a manner agreed with the consenting authority".</p> <p>All agree to amend RWT-1.4 Koputaroa, Ohau, Waikawa and Waitohu to include at the end of the abstraction parameters "using a methodology agreed with the consenting authority".</p> <p>All agree to amend RWT-1.4 Koputaroa to include at the end of the abstraction parameters "once adjusted for the effect of catchment area and travel time between the flow recorder and point of abstraction using a methodology agreed with the consenting authority".</p> | |
| Bore water availability | <p>All acknowledge because of the limited availability of bore water it was unlikely to be a viable option.</p> | |
| Consent conditions | <p>All agree to amend RWT1(f) to say "for each water take a flow meter must be installed and maintained, and the provision for the transfer of data by telemetry, provided in accordance with standard conditions of the consenting authorities".</p> <p>All agree to replace the reference in RWT-1.5 to 'Gleeson's Road' in the Manakau</p> | |

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| | | and Waiauti Stream row to 'hydrometric site at State Highway 1 Bridge'. | |
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