

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
AT WELLINGTON**

**I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
KI TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA**

IN THE MATTER of a direct referral of applications for resource consents and notices of requirement under sections 87G and 198E of the Resource Management Act 1991 for the Ōtaki to North of Levin Project

BY NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT
AGENCY-WAKA KOTAHI

(ENV-2023-WLG-000005)

Applicant

**MINUTE OF THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
(12 SEPTEMBER 2023)**

[1] I am considering two requests for waiver of the Court's directions for filing evidence by s 274 parties:


- The first is from Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society Inc (F&B) by way of memorandum dated 11 September 2023;
- The second is from NZ Equestrian Advocacy Network, Horowhenua Equestrian Advocacy Group and Kapiti Equestrian Advocacy Group (the Equestrian Groups/Groups) by way of email dated today.

[2] The F&B request is based on delay brought about by family illness and seeks an extension of time for filing to 4.00pm Friday 15 September next. The request is approved. If Waka Kotahi (WK) seeks amendment to directions regarding its reply evidence or other obligations as a consequence it may request accordingly.



[3] The Equestrian Groups' request appears to be open ended with no date for provision of evidence proposed by those Groups. If negotiations between the Equestrian Groups and WK have not resolved matters between them the Groups should have been completing evidence as a matter of urgency based on their "bottom line" position. I extend the date for that to happen to Friday 15 September next, also. If settlement is possible as is suggested by the Equestrian Groups' email of today, I suggest that WK conveys that to the Groups urgently.

[4] Leave is reserved for parties to seek additional or amended directions or clarification of any direction contained in this minute. I am on leave from tomorrow (13 September) and back on 19 September. In my absence Commissioner Bunting will deal with any further requests for waivers by any party. I have asked the Chief Environment Judge to confirm that the Commissioner may exercise such powers.



B P Dwyer
Environment Judge

