

**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

(20 September 2023)

[1] The Court is to hold a pre-hearing conference (PHC) in these proceedings at the District Court in Levin on Monday 9 October 2023 commencing at 2.15 p.m. A formal notice of PHC will issue with this minute.

[2] The Court is conscious that many of the parties to these proceedings are self-represented and will not be familiar with Court practices. One of the purposes of the PHC is to answer any queries which parties might have as to the timing and procedure of the Court's site visit and hearing.

[3] The site visit is to take place on Wednesday 18 October. As per the Court's minute of 29 August 2023 Waka Kotahi is to file a suggested itinerary for the site visit by 4pm on 22 September. This will be circulated to all parties for consideration and

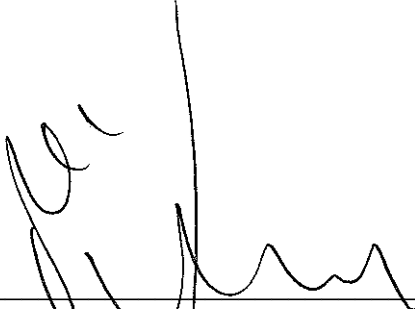
WAKA KOTAHI NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY-O2NL PROJECT



comment at the PHC. The itinerary is Waka Kotahi's suggestion only and may be amended by the Court having regard to any comments by other parties. Horowhenua District Council will provide a vehicle for the Court and a driver (who will not be a witness in the proceedings). The Court envisages meeting representatives of interested parties at various sites identified on the itinerary. In the normal course of events participation in the site visit will be limited to one representative of each party or group of parties interested in any particular site. That representative should not be a witness in the hearing but should have sufficient familiarity with any site to answer questions from the Court. Participants in the site visit and their contact details are to be identified at the PHC. Any other details should also be resolved at that time.

[4] In accordance with the Court's directions counsel for Waka Kotahi and the Councils have filed a memorandum dated 20 September 2023 identifying outstanding issues, the parties with an interest in those issues and an estimated hearing timetable. All parties intending to participate in the hearing must familiarise themselves with the contents of the memorandum which will be posted on the Court's website by tomorrow. As with the site visit itinerary this document is a suggestion only and parties may query any aspects which they wish. Parties will note that the proposed timetable identifies dates when it might be likely that particular parties may appear and present evidence or make submissions. This should be treated as indicative only.

[5] Following the PHC the Court will issue directions as to these matters.



B P Dwyer
Environment Judge

