

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT  
AUCKLAND REGISTRY**

**I MUA I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA  
TĀMAKI MAKAURAU ROHE**

**ENV-2020-AKL-000089**

**IN THE MATTER** of the Resource Management Act 1991 (“RMA”)  
**AND**  
**IN THE MATTER** of an appeal under clause 14(1) of Schedule 1 of the  
RMA  
**AND**  
**IN THE MATTER** of an application under section 274 of the RMA  
**BETWEEN** **WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL (as Submitter)**  
Appellant  
**AND** **WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
Respondent

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**NOTICE OF INTENTION BY MIRAKA LIMITED TO BE A PARTY TO THE  
PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 274**

**Dated 29 September 2020**

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**BUDDLE FINDLAY**

NEW ZEALAND LAWYERS

Barristers and Solicitors  
Auckland

Solicitor Acting: **Jennifer Caldwell / Mathew Gribben**

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Tel 64-9-358 2555 Fax 64-9-358 2055 PO Box 1433 DX CP24024 Auckland 1140

**TO:** the Registrar  
Environment Court  
Auckland

1. Miraka Limited ("**Miraka**") wishes to be a party to the following proceedings under s 274 of the Resource Management Act 1991 ("**RMA**"):

*Waikato Regional Council v Waikato Regional Council* (ENV-2020-AKL-000089).

2. The proceedings concern an appeal lodged by Waikato Regional Council ("**WRC**") against part of the decision of the Waikato Regional Council ("**Council**") on Proposed Plan Change 1: Waikato and Waipā River Catchments, to the Waikato Regional Plan ("**PC1**"). The Council's decision was publicly notified on 22 April 2020 ("**Decision**").

### **Nature of interest in the proceedings**

3. Miraka is a commercially successful Maori-owned dairy processing and exporting company that operates a dairy processing plant located in Mokai, 30km north-west of Taupo. Miraka has over 100 milk suppliers largely located in the Upper Waikato catchment and within 85km of its processing plant.
4. Miraka made a submission about the subject matter of the proceedings. It also lodged a further submission on the original submission by WRC. Miraka was actively involved in the hearing before the Hearing Panel including providing legal submissions and expert evidence.
5. Miraka also has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than that of the general public due to it and its suppliers' location within the catchment of the Waikato River and the direct impact of provisions on its business.
6. Overall, Miraka supports PC1 and its intended outcomes. In summary, Miraka's position before the Hearing Panel was:
  - (a) Protection of the environment and improvement of water quality in the Waikato and Waipā Rivers is of paramount importance and aligns with the concepts of kaitiakitanga and tikanga which underpin Miraka's ethos and relationship with the natural environment;

- (b) PC1 should be implemented in a fair and equitable manner, to ensure all sectors of the farming and wider community contribute to improving water quality and practice change;
  - (c) A staged reduction in discharges is necessary to provide for the social and economic well-being of farmers and communities;
  - (d) Ensure PC1 manages all four contaminants in the same way, including by adopting Good Farming Practice and removing the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile approach for nitrogen, specifically in order to ensure farmers are not inequitably impacted by virtue of the bio-physical characteristics of their farms (such as soil and rainfall);
  - (e) The use of Farm Environment Plans, in conjunction with a qualified Certified Farm Environment Planner, will give flexibility to farmers to identify appropriate actions and practices which implement Good Farming Practice for each farm; and
  - (f) Improvements in farm practice and reductions in discharges will be supported by the use of sector schemes within PC1 and improvements in sub-catchment planning and management.
7. Miraka is not a trade competitor for the purposes of sections 308C or 308CA of the RMA.

**Extent of interest in the proceedings**

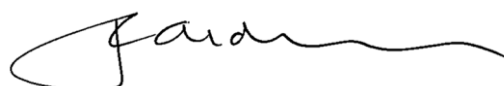
- 8. Miraka is interested in all of the proceedings.
- 9. Miraka supports the relief sought by the Appellant, in particular changes to Schedules C, D1 and D2, where it is consistent with Miraka's submission and provides greater clarity and workability to the provisions.

## **Alternative Dispute Resolution**

10. Miraka agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.

**DATED** this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020

**MIRAKA LIMITED** by its solicitors and  
authorised agents Buddle Findlay:



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**Jennifer Caldwell/ Mathew Gribben**

### **Address for service of person wishing to be a party:**

Miraka Limited  
c/- Jennifer Caldwell  
Buddle Findlay  
Level 17  
188 Quay Street  
Auckland

PO Box 1433, DX CP24024, Auckland 1140  
Phone: 64 9 358 2555  
Facsimile: 64 9 358 2055  
Email: jennifer.caldwell@buddlefindlay.com/ mathew.gribben@buddlefindlay.com

### **Names and addresses of persons to be served with a copy of this notice:**

Waikato Regional Council  
C/- Chris McLay  
Waikato Mail Centre  
PO Box 3038  
HAMILTON 3240

Telephone: 07 859 0999  
Email: Chris.McLay@waikatoregion.govt.nz

Waikato Regional Council  
PC1Appeals@waikatoregion.govt.nz

### **Note to person wishing to be a party**

You must lodge the original and one copy of this notice with the Environment Court within 15 working days after:

- (a) the period for lodging a notice of appeal ends, if the proceedings are an appeal; or
- (b) the decision to hold an inquiry, if the proceedings are an inquiry; or
- (c) the proceedings are commenced, in any other case.

Your right to be a party to the proceedings in the court may be limited by the trade competition provisions in section 274(1) and Part 11A of the Resource Management Act 1991.

The notice must be signed by you or on your behalf.

You must serve a copy of this notice on the relevant local authority and the person who commenced the proceedings within the same 15 working day period. In accordance with the directions of the Environment Court (Decision [2020] NZEnvC 063, issued on 15 May 2020), the requirement to serve copies of section 274 notices on all other parties is waived and will be effected by the Court uploading copies to the Environment Court's website.

However, you may apply to the Environment Court under section 281 of the Resource Management Act 1991 for a waiver of the above timing or service requirements (see form 38).

### **Advice**

If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch.