

**GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL  
PROPOSED NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN FOR THE WELLINGTON  
REGION**

**HEARING PANEL MINUTE 15**

**Hearing Stream 3**

**5 September 2017**

**MINUTE/DIRECTIONS FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR CONFERENCING OF  
TECHNICAL EXPERTS – WATER ALLOCATION**

1. On the 1st of Sept 2017, we received a memorandum from the Regional Council requesting directions from the Hearing Panel in relation to expert conferencing in respect to this topic. Specifically, the Council considered that there is value in the technical experts discussing the evidence of Mr Williamson (for AJ Barton and Ongaha Farms Limited) as it relates to the Lower Ruamahanga Groundwater Management Zone. Council suggested that the conferencing be undertaken prior to the Council's experts' evidence being presented.
2. In response, we received a memorandum from Counsel for A J Barton and Ongaha Farms Limited (supported by the Wairarapa Water Users Society) which generally supports the Council as to the merits of conferencing and set out a possible timetable for the conferencing with the week of the 18 Sept 2017 nominated as suitable a timetable.
3. The Panel endorsed the initiative by both parties and in respect of the different timetable proposed undertook a phone conference with the parties which resulted in agreement that conferencing should occur on Wednesday 6 Sept 2017, following the Council experts' presentations to the Panel on Tuesday 5 Sept 2017.
4. During the phone conference it was confirmed that the following experts would participate in the conferencing, Mr Hughes, Dr Gyopari, and Mr Thompson for the Regional Council and Mr Williamson for AJ Barton and Ongaha Farms Limited.
5. Following the conferencing set down for Wednesday 6 Sept 2017, the Panel requests that the experts provide a statement setting out the areas of agreement, disagreement and an indication of any further time required to complete said conferencing. This should be provided to the Panel by 5pm on Thursday 7 Sept 2017.

6. Two additional matters. Firstly we are uncertain as to the representation arrangements for Wairarapa Water Users Society and we would appreciate that party clarifying this matter.
7. Secondly, we are conscience that A J Barton, Ongaha Farms Limited and Wairarapa Water Users Society have vacated their hearing slot scheduled for Thursday 7 Sept 2017 in order for Mr Williamson to participate in the conferencing. As such, provision will be made for those parties to present to the Panel at a later date, following completion of the conferencing.



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Mark St.Clair

Chair

For and on behalf of

Proposed Natural Resources Plan Hearing Panel

6 September 2017

Note 1: The Hearings Officer is the Council's 'point of contact' for submitters and the media.

The contact email address is: [regionalplan@gw.govt.nz](mailto:regionalplan@gw.govt.nz)

Note 2: The Councils website address is: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/proposed-natural-resources-plan/>.