

IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act
1991

AND

IN THE MATTER

of the Proposed Natural Resources
Plan for the Wellington Region

MEMORANDUM GRANTING LEAVE FOR EXTENSION OF REPLY STATEMENTS

Hearing Stream 2

1. The Hearing Panel, on Friday 11th August 2017, received a request seeking an extension of time for the preparation of part of the officers' reply statements, from Counsel for Wellington Regional Council (the Council).
2. The extension sought relates to the parts of the officers' reply statements concerning the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) Regulations 2017 (NES-PF) and the potential Stock Exclusion Regulations.
3. Counsel for the Council, explained that the NPS-PF was made on 31 July 2017, and had implications for the majority of Mr Denton's section 42A Report on soil conservation, and hence his reply statement. Therefore, Counsel sought an extension to the timeframe for the filing of the soil conservation reply statement, but did not specify a preferred date.
4. Given the extensive nature of the implications of the changes that the NPS-PF has for the Proposed Plan, the Panel grant the requested extension. The written reply statement from Mr Denton for soil conservation is to be tabled and verbally presented on Thursday 14 September 2017 following the last of the Hearing Stream 3 submitters that are being heard that day.
5. In reaching this decision on the extension request, the Panel has considered the interests of other parties directly affected, the interests of the community in achieving adequate assessment of the effects of the proposal and the Panel's duty to avoid unreasonable delay.
6. In relation to the potential Stock Exclusion Regulations, the Council has sought leave for Mr Loe¹, to be able to provide a further written statement in reply if and when the Stock Exclusion Regulations are made. However, in the circumstances that the Stock Exclusion Regulations are not made by the end of 2017, Counsel would update the Panel and seek directions as to any additional reply statement from Mr Loe.
7. Given the uncertainty around the release of the Stock Exclusion Regulations, the Panel consider it prudent to provide the opportunity for Mr Loe to respond, if and when the Regulations are made.

¹ Mr B Loe, Section 42A Reporting Officer, Land use in riparian margins and stock access to surface water bodies and the CMA

8. Leave is granted for Mr Loe to provide a supplementary reply statement to address the proposed Stock Exclusion Regulations should they be made.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark St. Clair', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mark St.Clair

Panel Chair

Date: 17 August 2017