

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

Drury East Stage 1 Precinct resource consent application (the application)

M-5	Minute of the Drury East Stage 1 Precinct Expert Consenting Panel – 22 March 2022
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Extension to suspension of processing consent application

1. On 11 March 2022, the Panel issued Minute 4 granting a request to suspend processing of the application from midnight on Friday 11 March 2022 until midnight on Tuesday 29 March 2022 as requested by the applicant.
2. On 21 March 2022, legal counsel for the applicant wrote to the Panel seeking the application remain suspended beyond 29 March 2022. Counsel for the applicant clarified that it did not seek a specific end date for the suspension but gave an indication of the date to resume processing the application subject to matters outside its control, including the impact of COVID-19 on consultant availability. It also understands the PC49 decision from Auckland Council is imminent but is unlikely to be available by 29 March 2022.
3. The correspondence to the Panel on behalf of the applicant is available on the EPA website at the following link: <https://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/referred-projects/drury-east-stage-1-precinct/correspondence-to-and-from-the-panel/>
4. The Panel notes that clause 24 of Schedule 6 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 states the total number of days over which processing is suspended must not be more than 50 working days. If 50 working days have elapsed since the processing of the application was suspended the Panel must decide whether to return the application to the applicant or continue to process the application.
5. The Panel agrees to suspend processing of the consent until a request is received from the applicant to resume processing of the application. The Panel notes that it would be assisted by the receipt of advance notice of at least two weeks to the date at which the applicant intends to request processing to resume.

6. As recorded in Minute 4 dated 11 March 2022, given the applicant's preference for the Panel to continue assessing the application, the Panel will consider what continuation of the assessment is appropriate during the period of suspension, including the potential engagement of appointment of any special or technical advisers under clause 10 of Schedule 5 of the Act.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joan Forret', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Joan Forret
Chairperson
Drury East Stage 1 Precinct Expert Consenting Panel