

Subject:

FW: Invitation to comment on draft consent conditions for Matawii Water Storage Reservoir by Te Tai Tokerau Water Trust [LP16] under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

From: Andy Nock [mailto:Andyn@fnhl.co.nz]

Sent: Thursday, 15 October 2020 8:53 AM

To: matawiifasttrack <matawiifasttrack@epa.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Invitation to comment on draft consent conditions for Matawii Water Storage Reservoir by Te Tai Tokerau Water Trust [LP16] under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Re- Conditions

8. Insurance and

17. Emergency Action Plan

Both are required to be in place 3-months prior to construction commencing

The above conditions have significant ramifications for the Dam and the Innovation Park.

The Dam would not be able to be complete within this earthworks season.

This in turn means the Innovation Park cannot deliver the water the horticultural tenants need when they open – water required for propagation and growing.

The company have two proposals for covered berry production both for an initial development of 10ha of berry crop, expanding to 17ha and creating approximately 250 FTE in the process.

The horticultural berry growers are looking to open July 2021.

The avocado oil producer and the juicing plant generating 36 FTE's each and seeking to be open August 2021.

Both need water which the Dam was providing.

Time is of the essence with the earthworks season having already started on 1st October. The civil contractors FNHL have gone out to tender for the work required to create the platforms needed have indicated they need the full earthworks season and good weather to complete the work programmed within necessary timeframes.

If the Dam does not run parallel we risk losing these companies and jobs as each company would need to make the decision as to whether to delay a full 12 months and open 2022 or simply withdraw their interest altogether which is a major risk.

We ask that the 3-month condition be reduced to 1-month so as to allow both projects to proceed in tandem as otherwise the Innovation Park does face a significant risk that it will not proceed.

We appreciate your consideration of this.

Kind Regards,

Andy Nock
CEO
Far North Holdings Ltd