

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

Rangitane Maritime Development by Far North Holdings Limited and Far North District Council

M-3 Minute of the Rangitane Maritime Development Expert Consenting Panel – 12 November 2021

Request for processing of the application to be suspended

1. On 12 November 2021, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) received correspondence from Jeremy Brabant (Legal Counsel) on behalf of Far North Holdings Limited (the applicant) requesting that the processing of the application be suspended under clause 23(1) of Schedule 6 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2021 (the Act).
2. The reason for the suspension, as advised, is to allow the applicant time to engage with and respond to matters raised by Te Rūnanga-ā-iwi Ō Ngāpuhi (Te Rūnanga) in their comment on the application¹.
3. The applicant has requested that processing of the application is suspended until 3 December 2021, but noted that requests to adjust the timeframe may be made.
4. In accordance with clause 23(3) of Schedule 6 of the Act, the EPA must provide a copy of the suspension request to the relevant local authority and to any person or group invited to provide comments under clause 17(2) of Schedule 6 of the Act. The request can be found on the EPA website here: <https://www.epa.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/Fast-track-consenting/Rangitane/panel-correspondence/Letter-Requesting-Suspension-of-Processing-for-Rangitane-maritime-application.pdf>
5. No action is required from any party.

Suspension of Processing

6. In accordance with clause 23(4) of Schedule 6 of the Act, the panel, at its discretion, may suspend the processing of a consent application when a request is made.
7. The Panel has considered the request by the applicant and has resolved to **grant** the suspension.
8. The Panel considers that, in light of the matters raised by Te Rūnanga, it is appropriate and necessary to allow the applicant sufficient time to engage further and respond to those matters.
9. The suspension will begin at **11:59pm on 12 November 2021**, at which time the Panel will cease processing the application.
10. Accordingly, at 11:59pm on 12 November 2021, two working days of the timeframe specified in clause 37(2)(a) of Schedule 6 of the Act, by which the Panel must issue its final decision (where there has been no further extension to that time-period), will have elapsed. At the point the current suspension of processing ceases, there will be 23 working days left by which the panel must issue its decision (where no further extension of the timeframe specified in clause 37(2)(a) of Schedule 6 of the Act has been applied).

¹ Letter from Russell McVeagh to the EPA dated 10 November 2021.

11. In accordance with clause 23(6) of Schedule 6 of the Act, the applicant may request in writing that the processing of the application be resumed. If no such request is received within 50 working days of the processing of the application being suspended, in accordance with clause 24(2) of Schedule 6 of the Act, the Panel must decide to return the consent application or continue to process the application.
12. Although the applicant has requested that the application be suspended until 3 December 2021, a written request to resume processing should be provided by the applicant to the EPA pursuant to clause 23(6) of Schedule 6 of the Act. If a written request is not received, the Panel is not obliged to decide whether to resume processing until 50 working days have elapsed pursuant to clause 24(2)(b) of Schedule 6 of the Act.
13. The relevant local authorities and any person or group invited to provide comments under clause 17(2) of Schedule 6 of the Act will be notified if a written request to resume processing is received, and informed when the processing of the application is to resume.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MHill', is positioned above the name 'Mary Hill'.

Mary Hill

On behalf of the Rangitane Maritime Development Expert Consenting Panel.