

**IN THE MATTER of**

**the Resource Management Act 1991**

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER of**

**Hearing of submissions and  
further submissions on the  
Proposed Te Tai O Poutini Plan**

**MINUTE 5 – REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION OF  
TIMEFRAMES FOR PROVISION OF SUBMITTER  
EVIDENCE**

1. The Hearing Panel has received two requests for extensions of the timeframe to provide submitter evidence for Topic 1 (Introduction/Whole Plan) and Topic 2 (Strategic Direction), which was directed to be provided by 2 October 2023. These requests and the Hearing Panel's responses are outlined below.
2. The Department of Conservation (DOC) has advised that due to an error in the email address used for hearing administration, it did not receive the Hearing Panel's notice of the hearing schedule or procedural minute and directions until recently. For this reason, the DOC requests until Monday 16 October 2023 to provide any expert evidence and Friday 27 October 2023 to provide any legal submissions.
3. The Hearing Panel considers the extension sought by the DOC is appropriate given it has not received sufficient notice of the hearing directions and use of an incorrect email address has been confirmed by the Hearing Administrator. However, the Hearing Panel considers any legal submission should be provided earlier than Friday 27 October 2023 to enable sufficient time for these to be pre-read before the commences on Monday 30 October 2023. The Hearing Panel therefore grants the DOC an extension to provide any expert evidence by **12pm, Monday 16 October 2023** and any legal submissions by **12pm, Thursday 26 October 2023**.
4. The West Coast Regional Council (WCRC) has advised it does not wish to appear at the hearing for Topics 1 and 2 but request an extension of the timeframe until today, Thursday 5 October 2023, to provide brief evidence on Agriculture Objective 1 in relation to its further submission FS136.009. The WCRC advised the reasons for needing an extension were due to high workloads, a small planning team and staff shortages being experienced, which had impacted on its ability to complete written evidence.
5. The Hearing Panel considers the WCRC's request to be reasonable given the reasons outlined and only a relatively short extension has been sought. The Hearing Panel therefore grants an extension to the WCRC to provide any expert evidence by **5pm, Thursday 16 October 2023**.



**Dean Chrystal**

**Independent Commissioner – Chair - on behalf of the Hearing Panel**

**5 October 2023**