

3 November 2023

Te Tai o Poutini Plan Hearing Panel
PO Box 66
Greymouth, 7840

By email to: tayla.mehrtens@wrcr.govt.nz

Dear Commissioners,

Proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan – Designations Hearing

KiwiRail Holdings Limited (KiwiRail) is the State-Owned Enterprise responsible for the management and operation of the national railway network. This includes managing railway infrastructure and land, as well as rail freight and passenger services within New Zealand. KiwiRail Holdings Limited is also the Requiring Authority for land designated “Railway Purposes” in District Plans throughout New Zealand.

The ‘Section 42A Report – Designations’ makes recommendations on two KiwiRail submission points in relation to KiwiRail’s designation. I have provided responses to the recommendations in the table below.

S442.094 – Accept in part

The reporting planner did not support KiwiRail’s request to specify the Designation Hierarchy for the rail designation KRH1 as ‘Primary’.

Response: KiwiRail accepts there are overlapping designations within the three West Coast districts, namely with road designations. KiwiRail accepts ‘Varies’ as the Designation Hierarchy for KRH1.

S442.096 – Reject

The reporting planner rejected KiwiRail’s request to delete any overlays for Outstanding Natural Features, Outstanding Natural Landscapes, and Outstanding Natural Character over KiwiRail’s designation.

Response: KiwiRail considers this submission point should be addressed in a later hearing for Ecosystems and Indigenous biodiversity, and Outstanding Natural Landscapes. KiwiRail notes that the designation purpose and conditions take precedent over the overlay provisions. However, KiwiRail does not consider it appropriate to include an established, developed rail corridor within an overlay recognised for having outstanding natural values. Overlays should include land which accurately meets the values of that overlay as opposed to unnecessarily including built infrastructure.



I confirm that KiwiRail will not be filing evidence on the Designations Hearing and I do not wish to be heard at the Hearing. I am available to answer any questions from the Hearing Panel either in writing or via videoconference if required.

Reagrds,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheena McGuire', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sheena McGuire
RMA Advisor
KiwiRail