

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
CHRISTCHURCH REGISTRY**

**I MUA I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
KI ŌTAUTAHI**

ENV-2025-CHC-000131

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of an appeal under clause 14(1) of Schedule 1 of the Act

AND

IN THE MATTER of an application for waivers and directions under section 281 of the Act

BETWEEN **BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Appellant

AND **TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE**

Respondent

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR WAIVERS AND
DIRECTIONS IN RELATION TO S 274 NOTICES BY GREY DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

19 December 2025

FLETCHER VAUTIER MOORE
LAWYERS
PO BOX 90
NELSON 7040

Telephone: (03) 548 1469
Email: cthomsen@fvm.co.nz
ayardley@fvm.co.nz
Solicitor: Chris Thomsen

May it please the Court:

1. Buller District Council (**BDC**) made a submission and further submission on the proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan (**TTPP**) and has filed an appeal.
2. BDC has reviewed the Application for Waivers and Directions in relation to s 274 notices filed by Grey District Council (**GDC**) dated 16 December 2025.
3. BDC supports the waivers and directions sought by GDC under section 281 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
4. In particular, BDC supports:
 - 4.1. the proposed extension of time for the filing of s 274 notices to 2 February 2026; and
 - 4.2. the corresponding adjustment to the timetable for the filing of the first case management memorandum.
5. BDC agrees that the TTPP is a large and complex plan, covering a broad geographical area and a wide range of significant and interrelated resource management issues. The volume of appeals filed to date, and the scale of the relief sought in some appeals, necessarily requires careful review.
6. BDC also agrees that the current timing of the s 274 notice deadline, falling immediately after the summer holiday period, presents practical difficulties for councils, their officers, and legal advisers. These constraints apply equally to BDC, including in relation to the availability of key staff and the need to ensure informed and properly scoped decisions about participation under s 274.
7. Allowing a short extension of time will assist in:
 - 7.1. ensuring that s 274 notices are targeted and meaningful;
 - 7.2. reducing unnecessary or overly broad participation; and

- 7.3. promoting a more efficient and constructive appeal process overall.
8. BDC considers that the extensions sought are modest, reasonable, and procedural in nature, and will not result in material prejudice to any party.
9. For those reasons, BDC respectfully supports the Court granting the waivers and directions sought in GDC's application, including their application to all prospective s 274 parties so that a consistent timetable applies.

Dated: 19 December 2025



CP Thomsen / AA Yardley
Counsel for Buller District Council