

**BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
CHRISTCHURCH REGISTRY**

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

ENV-2025-CHC-000101

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

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

AND

IN THE MATTER of s 274 of the Act

BETWEEN **CHORUS NEW ZEALAND LIMITED and
SPARK NEW ZEALAND TRADING LIMITED**

Appellant

AND

TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE

Respondent

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL'S WISH TO BE A PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS
2 February 2026

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

TO: The Registrar
Environment Court
Christchurch

1. Buller District Council (**BDC**) wishes to be a party to the following proceedings:

*Chorus New Zealand Limited and Spark New Zealand Trading Limited v
Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee*

2. BDC made a submission about the subject matter of the proceedings.
3. BDC has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than the interest that the general public has because BDC:
 - (a) Is the territorial authority responsible for administering and implementing Te Tai o Poutini Plan (**TTPP**) within the Buller District; and
 - (b) Has statutory responsibilities for integrated land use planning, infrastructure provision, and managing land use effects.
4. BDC is not a trade competitor for the purposes of ss 308C or 308A Resource Management Act 1991.
5. BDC is interested in all of the proceedings.
6. BDC is interested in the following particular issues:
 - (a) Infrastructure and utility provisions in TTPP, including rules relating to the installation, operation, maintenance and upgrading of telecommunications infrastructure, and the availability of clear permitted activity pathways for low-impact network utilities;
 - (b) Provisions in TTPP relating to natural character and the margins of waterbodies, and natural features and landscapes, insofar as they apply to telecommunications infrastructure and require consideration of functional or operational need; and

- (c) The administration of TTPP, including the consistency and internal coherence of infrastructure provisions across relevant chapters of TTPP, including the interaction between infrastructure rules and zone rules

- 7. BDC is neutral on the relief sought because:
 - (a) BDC recognises the importance of telecommunications infrastructure to the social and economic wellbeing of the District and the need for efficient and workable planning provisions;

 - (b) As the territorial authority responsible for administering TTPP, BDC has an interest in ensuring that any relief granted results in provisions that are clear, workable, and capable of being implemented efficiently in practice, and do not undermine the effective operation or delivery of TTPP; and

 - (c) BDC would not oppose any amendments that address identified inconsistencies within TTPP and ensure that infrastructure provisions integrate coherently with zone-based standards, provided that any such amendments do not give rise to unintended consequences across chapters.

- 8. BDC agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings

Dated: 2 February 2026



CP Thomsen / AA Yardley
Counsel for Buller District Council

This notice was filed by **CHRISTOPHER PAUL THOMSEN**, solicitor for the party of the firm Fletcher Vautier Moore. The address for service of the above-named party is at the offices of Fletcher Vautier Moore, Solicitors, Level 1, 201 Queen Street, Richmond, Nelson.

Documents for service on the party may be:

- a) Posted to the solicitor at Fletcher Vautier Moore, Solicitors, PO Box 90, Nelson 7040; or
- b) Sent by email to both cthomsen@fvm.co.nz and ayardley@fvm.co.nz.

Advice

If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch.