

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
CHRISTCHURCH REGISTRY**

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

ENV-2025-CHC-000118

**IN THE MATTER
OF** an appeal under clause 14 of Schedule 1 and section
274 of the RMA

BETWEEN **WMS GROUP (HQ) LIMITED**

Appellant

AND **TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE**

Respondent

NOTICE BY GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WISH TO BE A PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS

Dated: 2 February 2026

Presented for filing by:

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NOTICE BY GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WISH TO BE A PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS

To: The registrar at the Environment Court, Christchurch

And to: The Appellant

And to: The Respondent

Grey District Council (**GDC**) wishes to be a party to an appeal by WMS Group (HQ) Limited against the decision of the Te Tai o Poutini Committee on the proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan (**TTPP**).

Nature of interest

1. GDC is a local authority under the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**).
2. GDC is not a trade competitor for the purposes of sections 308C or 308CA of the RMA.
3. GDC is interested in part of the proceedings. The parts of the proceedings that GDC is interested in are those that apply within the Grey District and relate to the following chapters of the TTPP, and as particularised in Appendix 1 (attached):
 - (a) Strategic Directions – Overview and MIN – Mineral Extraction;
 - (b) ECO – Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity;
 - (c) CE - Coastal Environment;
 - (d) LIGHT – Light;
 - (e) NOISE – Noise;
 - (f) RURZ – Rural Zones;
 - (g) GRUZ – General Rural Zone;
 - (h) MINZ – Mineral Extraction Zone;
 - (i) PORTZ – Port Zone;
 - (j) Any other parts of the appeal that are affected by or related to the above.
4. GDC is interested in the following particular issues:
 - (a) ensuring that the TTPP is workable for GDC as a local authority and that it assists GDC in carrying out its functions under the RMA; and

- (b) ensuring the TTPP recognises that:
 - (i) The West Coast has a unique environment that is characterised by about 85% of land in the region managed by the Department of Conservation. This unique context means that development in the remaining areas needs to be enabled to provide for the region's social, economic and cultural wellbeing.
 - (ii) The Grey District needs sustainable infrastructure and services that enable communities to be thriving, resilient and connected.
 - (iii) The TTPP should enable the use and development of natural and physical resources while ensuring protections are appropriate for the West Coast.
 - (iv) The TTPP should not create pressures on affordability of housing, farming, industry and infrastructure, as well as other developments through disproportionate or unworkable standards for development and use in the region.
 - (v) The West Coast region is highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change and natural hazards, which require ensuring the protection of infrastructure and development.

Relief sought

- 5. GDC's position as to whether it supports, opposes or conditionally opposes a specified relief is set out in the table in Appendix 1.
- 6. GDC's reasons for supporting a relief where specified in Appendix 1 are:
 - (a) the relief will promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources within the Grey District, and is therefore consistent with Part 2 and other provisions of the RMA;
 - (b) the relief will meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations;
 - (c) the relief will enable the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of the people of the Grey District;
 - (d) the relief will facilitate the efficient use and development of natural and physical resources;

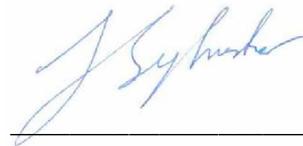
- (e) the relief will avoid, remedy or mitigate actual or potential adverse effects on the environment;
 - (f) the relief is the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA and/or objectives of the TTPP in terms of section 32 of the RMA;
 - (g) the relief will ensure the TTPP is workable for GDC as a local authority and that it assists GDC in carrying out its functions under the RMA; and
 - (h) the further specific reasons where set out in Appendix 1 (without limiting the general reasons above).
7. GDC further notes that where similar relief is sought by other appellants, consistency between the other similar appeals is supported.
8. GDC's reasons for opposing a relief where specified in Appendix 1 are:
- (a) the relief will not promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources within the Grey District, and is therefore inconsistent with Part 2 and other provisions of the RMA;
 - (b) the relief will not meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations;
 - (c) the relief will not enable the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of the people of the Grey District;
 - (d) the relief will not facilitate the efficient use and development of natural and physical resources;
 - (e) the relief will not avoid, remedy or mitigate actual or potential adverse effects on the environment;
 - (f) the relief is not the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA and/or objectives of the TTPP in terms of section 32 of the RMA;
 - (g) the relief will not ensure the TTPP is workable for GDC as a local authority and that it assists GDC in carrying out its functions under the RMA; and
 - (h) the further specific reasons where set out in Appendix 1 (without limiting the general reasons above).
9. GDC's reasons for conditionally opposing a relief are set out in Appendix 1. Where GDC has conditionally opposed a relief, GDC may revisit its position and support the relief if the matters signalled in Appendix 1 are addressed by the appellant (to GDC's

satisfaction). GDC however reserves the right to oppose the relief for the general reasons set out at paragraph 8.

Alternative dispute resolution

10. GDC agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.

Dated: 2 February 2026



G A Biggs / J C Sylvester
Counsel for Grey District Council

This document is filed by Jonathon Cameron Sylvester, solicitor for Grey District Council of the firm Corcoran French, Lawyers. The address for service is at 74 Armagh Street, PO Box 13-001, Christchurch, Phone: (03) 379 4660. Documents for service on Grey District Council may be left at the address for service or may be:

- (a) Posted to the solicitor at PO Box 13001, Christchurch 8141; or
- (b) Emailed to jonathon@cflaw.co.nz as long as they are contemporaneously emailed to geraldine@cflaw.co.nz.

Advice

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

Appendix 1: Grey District Council's interest in the appeal of WMS Group (HQ) Limited

#	TTPP Provisions	Relief sought by the appellant	Grey District Council's position	Further Reasons for Grey District Council's Position
1.	Part 2 – Strategic Directions Overview – Paragraph 3, subpoint 2	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP to ensure the objectives and policies of other chapters in the TTPP are consistent with the Strategic Directions.	Support	
2.	Part 2 – Mineral Extraction – MIN-P1 – MIN-P5	Delete and retain MIN-O2 – MIN-O6 as notified in the TTPP as objectives. Express recognition that offsetting and compensation are appropriate ways to manage effects.	Support	
3.	Part 2 – Natural Environment – NENV-O1 – O2 and NENV-P1	Delete and retain NENV-O1 – O4 as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (page 24 of S599) which requested recognition of the functional and operational need and a consenting pathway for mineral activities.	GDC is not interested in this part of the proceedings.	
4.	Part 2 – Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity – Entire chapter, ECO-O1 – O4, ECO-P1 – P10, ERO-R1 – R11	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (pages 31-33 of S599), including particularly to include specific recognition of operational and functional need of activities to be located in an area, and removal of restrictive wording such as "minimise", "restrict" and "preserve" and replace with "management" of significant effects.	Conditionally oppose all reliefs except the relief to add the following wording to ECO-O1 which is supported <i>“when considering</i>	GDC considers the bundled reliefs under this chapter require further particularisation and should be set out separately with specific wording so that they can be considered. GDC may revisit its position if such particulars and wording (satisfactory to GDC) are provided.

			<p><i>resource consent applications which have effects on ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity, have regard to the protection afforded to other similar ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity within public conservation land.”</i></p> <p>GDC further notes its own appeal in respect of ECO-R4 and prefers its own appeal point in the event of inconsistency.</p>	
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5.	Part 2 – Natural Character and Margins of Waterbodies – NC-O3, NC-P2, NC-P3, NC-R2 – R4	Amend provisions to ensure activities (such as mining) operational and functional needs are expressly provided for, as requested by WMS in original submission 599 (page 35-36 of S599).	GDC is not interested in this part of the proceeding.	
6.	Part 2 – Coastal Environment – CE-P2 – P8, CE-R4	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (pages 36-37 of S599).	Support GDC notes its own appeal in respect of CE-R4 and prefers its own appeal point in the event of inconsistency	
7.	Part 2 – Light – LIGHT-02, LIGHT-P1, LIGHT-P3, LIGHT-R1, LIGHT-R2, LIGHT-R3, LIGHT-R4, LIGHT-R5	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (pages 38-40 of S599).	Support. GDC notes its own appeal in relation to LIGHT -R4 and prefers its own appeal in the event of any inconsistency.	

8.	Part 2 – Noise – NOISE-R2(10), NOISE-R5 – R9, R11	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (page 40 of S599) and for the purposes of NOISE-R9 in the West Coast Bulk Logistics Ltd further submission (p3 of FS152).	Support GDC notes its own appeal in respect of Noise R3 and prefers its own appeal point in the event of inconsistency	
9.	Part 3 – Rural Zones – Objectives and Policies – RURZ-O1, RURZ-O5 RURZ-P6, RURZ-P22 – 26	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (pages 43-45 of S599). The reference to primary production (as defined to include mining activities) and not land based primary production (which excludes mining activities) should be retained.	Support relief except to the extent that the references to primary production and land based primary production should be retained. GDC conditionally opposes the part of the relief that relates to the definitions.	GDC conditionally opposes the retention of the definitions for primary production and land based primary production as it considers that further particulars and reasoning are required to understand the impact of their retention upon the RURZ objectives and policies. GDC may revisit its position if further particulars and reasoning is provided by the appellant.

10.	Part 3 – General Rural Zone – Rules – GRUZ R10 – R11, GRUZ R17, R24 (now deleted) R25	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (pages 45-46 of S599).	Support GDC notes its own appeal in respect of GRUZ-R11 and prefers its own appeal point in the event of inconsistency	
11.	Part 3 – Port Zone – PORTZ-P6	Delete.	GDC is not interested in this part of the proceeding.	
12.	Part 3 – Port Zone – PORTZ-R1, R6, R7	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (page 51 of S599).	Conditionally oppose	GDC considers further particulars are required in relation to this relief. The references to rules may be erroneous. GDC may revisit its position if further particulars and clarification of the amendments (satisfactory to GDC) are provided by the appellant.
13.	Part 3 – Mineral Extraction Zone – Entire Chapter, MINZ-O1 - O2, MINZ-	Retain wording as notified in the TTPP, incorporating changes requested by WMS in original submission 599 (pages 47-49 of S599).	Support	

	P1 – P8, MINZ-R2 – R3, MINZ-R6 – R7			
14.	Various	Additional generalised relief (relevant to the parts of the proceeding that GDC is interested in) sought by the appellant (where amended wording for the provisions is not provided)	Conditionally oppose	GDC is unable to support relief in general and unspecified terms but may revisit its position if specific wording (satisfactory to GDC) is provided during the appeal process.