



10 February 2021

Attention: Waikato District Plan Review Hearings Panel

Via email to Fletcher.Bell@waidc.govt.nz

Waikato-Tainui provide the following memo in response to the Memorandum of Counsel for Ambury Properties Limited, dated 26 January 2021.

Waikato-Tainui understand that no request has been made by the hearing panel for a response to the above-mentioned memo, however given the flexibility afforded to the applicant and the variation to what was previously proposed, it is our view that a response is necessary.

Of particular concern to Waikato-Tainui is the change in approach to the agreed minimum standard of treatment required of the Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant and the failure to provide detail around access to drinking water.

Waikato-Tainui have provided meaningful responses and participated in what we view as an unusual situation proposed by APL. Whilst having concerns about the proposal in general, we have limited our key submissions to wastewater and the availability of drinking water. The focus for us is and will always be, what is best for our tupuna Awa.

Waikato-Tainui entered into expert conferencing for the proposed development in good faith and were relatively comfortable that all other parties had done the same.

The Joint Witness Statement signed on 11 August 2020 reflected general agreement, that, as a minimum, for stage 2 of the development to progress, Huntly Wastewater



Treatment Plant would have to be compliant with its current resource consent - see paragraph 3.2 of said Witness Statement.

The memo from Memorandum of Counsel for APL dated the 26th of January does not appear to be consistent with this. The only commitment made in this memo is a desludging process that will simply add more capacity. The only reference to the awa is that the discharge will be no worse than the currently failing system - this is far from the expectations created in Te Ture Whaimana.

The memo makes no commitments to water quality but references potential investment by different parties, including yet unconfirmed contestable funding. This is far from what we anticipated during and following our participation in expert conferencing.

A further area of concern that has failed to be addressed in the Memorandum of Counsel is the provision of drinking water. Drinking water is only briefly addressed in said memo, no mention is made of the need to supply the township of Ngaaruawaahia. Given the growth in Ngaaruawaahia and the commitments to supply the township, this issue needs to be addressed with more than a sweeping reference to all being well, as contained in paragraph 3 of the Memorandum of Counsel. This is a complex issue that cannot be addressed in such a manner, given the pressures on Waikato District Council to invest in its dated infrastructure.

As we have stated on many occasions, Waikato-Tainui does not seek to stand in the way of progress and development however, what is best for the Awa must always be prioritised alongside any development. This is the start, middle and end of any discussion, and a non-negotiable.



We have some sympathy for APL and their commitment to the rohe. It is unfortunate that the performance of the Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plant has been allowed to go for so long with such a poor performance record.

Ngaa mihi nui, naa

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Tukere".

Marae Tukere

General Manager, Oranga

On behalf of Waikato-Tainui