

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of Hearing Submissions and Further Submissions on the
Proposed Waikato District Plan (Stage 1)

**MEMORANDUM BY COUNCIL TO HEARING COMMISSIONERS
RELATING TO HEARING 21B LANDSCAPES
Date: 27 August 2020**

May it please the Hearing Commissioners:

1. Council's rebuttal evidence for Hearing 21B Landscapes is due on 3 September 2020, however Council is seeking leave from the Hearings Panel to extend the timeframe for Council's rebuttal to be provided.
2. The reasons for this request include:
 - (a) Late evidence was received on 25 August 2020 from the Geoscience Society (and accepted by the hearing panel); and
 - (b) Council's landscape expert (Boffa Miskell) has been unable to analyse all rebuttal evidence any earlier than 26 August 2020 due to other work commitments.
3. Council therefore seeks an extension to 5pm Friday 11 September for Council's rebuttal evidence to be filed.
4. Council notes that the Hearings Panel Directions (dated 18 August 2020) advised that a rescheduled hearing date for Hearing 21B Landscapes will be set once New Zealand returns to Covid Alert Level 1. For this reason, Council does not consider the delay of Council's rebuttal evidence will disadvantage any submitters.
5. However paragraph 3(c) of the Directions states:

All evidence and rebuttal evidence is to be provided and circulated in accordance with the timetable that would have applied if the hearing was still due to commence on 10 September 2020. That is to say that although the hearing has been deferred, the evidence exchange timetable remains unchanged.
6. As directed by the Panel in its Directions dated 21 May 2019, submitter's legal evidence is to be provided three working days prior to the hearing (which equates to two working days after Council's rebuttal evidence is due). Council therefore requests that for fairness submitter's legal submissions are due two working days after Council's rebuttal evidence is provided. This would mean legal submissions would need to be provided by 5pm Tuesday 15 September 2020.

Dated at Ngaruawahia this 27th day of August 2020



Carolyn Wratt
Principal Planner