

8 May 2018

Dear submitter

Decision on Prince of Wales/Omāroro Reservoir Notice of Requirement

- 1 This letter comprises Wellington City Council's decision on the Prince of Wales/Omāroro Reservoir notice of requirement ('**NOR**').
- 2 The NOR is for a designation to authorise the construction, operation and maintenance of a 35,000m³ water supply reservoir within the Prince of Wales Park, Mount Cook, Wellington. The reservoir is required to service the Wellington Low Level Water Supply Zone, which provides potable water to approximately 70,000 residents and a range of significant commercial, industrial and critical community facilities. The designation (and related regional resource consents) will authorise all works associated with the reservoir, including access, pipework and tie-ins to the existing water network. The reservoir will be buried upon completion of construction, with landscaping of the fill batters. Construction activity for the reservoir is anticipated to take up to 3 years.
- 3 Wellington City Council is the territorial authority with financial responsibility for the project under section 168A of the Resource Management Act 1991. As Chief City Planner, I have delegated authority to make this decision on behalf of Wellington City Council. My decision is to confirm the NOR, subject to the imposition of the conditions in **Appendix A**.

Reasons for decision

- 4 The reasons for the Council's decision are:
 - a The Council appointed a Hearing Panel to consider submissions and evidence on the NOR. On 11 April 2018 the Hearing Panel recommended the Council confirm the NOR without modification and subject to conditions. The Hearing Panel's report is attached as **Appendix B**.
 - b Wellington City Council accepts the findings of the Hearing Panel, including that:
 - i A new reservoir serving the Wellington Lower Level Water Supply Zone would provide for additional operational and post-disaster resilience;
 - ii A rigorous site selection process has been carried out;
 - iii The risk of failure of the reservoir is extremely low and therefore acceptable;
 - iv Any failure of reservoir backfill material in a significant earthquake would be localised and unlikely to affect private property;

- v Stormwater runoff will be managed to appropriate industry standards;
- vi Groundwater is unlikely to be present, and if it is, effects on groundwater patterns resulting from reservoir construction are likely to be minimal;
- vii The project footprint will avoid the Papawai Stream and unnamed tributary of Waitangi Stream;
- viii Sediment and dust can be controlled during construction so that the risk of sediment release to the streams is sufficiently low;
- ix The visual effects of the reservoir can be adequately mitigated in the longer term;
- x Recreational users of the Prince of Wales Park will be impacted during the construction, but in the longer term the values of the Park will be reinstated and potentially enhanced;
- xi Construction traffic will be disruptive, but adverse effects will be mitigated to the greatest degree possible; and
- xii The designation conditions will appropriately manage the effects of the project. The conditions in **Appendix A** are the same as those recommended by the Hearing Panel, subject to minor formatting changes.

Appeals

- 5 Any person who made a submission on the NOR can appeal against the whole or any part of the Council's decision.
- 6 Any notice of appeal must be prepared in accordance of a section 174 of the Resource Management Act 1991, and be lodged with the Environment Court and served on the Council within 15 working days of the date you receive this notice of decision.

Incorporation into District Plan

- 7 The designation will be included in the Wellington City District Plan:
 - a Once the appeal period has expired, if no appeals are lodged; or
 - b Once any appeals are resolved, if any appeals are lodged.

Yours sincerely



David Chick
Chief City Planner