

Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington
FAO: Bec Ramsay, WCC Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning

6 May 2020

Dear Bec

Omāroro Reservoir – Application to vary Condition LC.6

Please find enclosed an application to vary the licence area covered by the Omāroro Reservoir Licence. This application is submitted pursuant to Licence Condition LC.6.

Background

The Omāroro Reservoir comprises 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 Omāroro Reservoir will significantly expand water supply within this Zone to provide for:

- Network management and maintenance
- Operational resilience
- Disaster resilience
- Growth and well-being

A licence granting land-owner approval for the construction of the reservoir was issued by Wellington City Council to Wellington Water Ltd in May 2018. The licence area comprises a 'Temporary Construction Area' to allow for construction works to take place (see Figure 1). The easement for the future operation, management and maintenance of the reservoir is required under Licence Condition LC.10, which is to be submitted at least 40 working days prior to the completion of construction.

The construction, operation and maintenance of the reservoir is also authorised under the Resource Management Act 1991 through Designation 135 (Prince of Wales/Omāroro Reservoir) and associated regional consents for groundwater take, stormwater discharge and earthworks (ref: WGN180065 [35008] [35009][35010], granted 16 February 2018).

Construction of the Omāroro Reservoir is due to commence in 2020.

Omāroro Reservoir Licence

The coverage of the Omāroro Reservoir licence is defined in Licence Condition LC.5 and comprises the area defined as 'Temporary Construction Area' shown in Figure 1 below:



Figure 1: Approved licence area

Licence Condition LC.6 allows for the variation of the licence area with the written approval of the WCC Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning.

This application is submitted pursuant to Licence Condition LC. 6 and proposes a minor adjustment to the licence area to allow for works to take place where they cannot be contained within the existing licence footprint. These works comprise:

- Works to strengthen the existing access from Dorking Road to allow emergency and infrequent vehicle access to the reservoir once constructed
- Construction of two buried flow meter chambers and one buried control valve chamber and realignment of the existing water mains
- Relocation of the existing stormwater inlet

The licence area is proposed to be adjusted in two locations to accommodate these works; the top of Dorking Road and the top of Rolleston Street. The proposed licence area with the two areas of adjustment highlighted in red is shown in Figure 2 below:

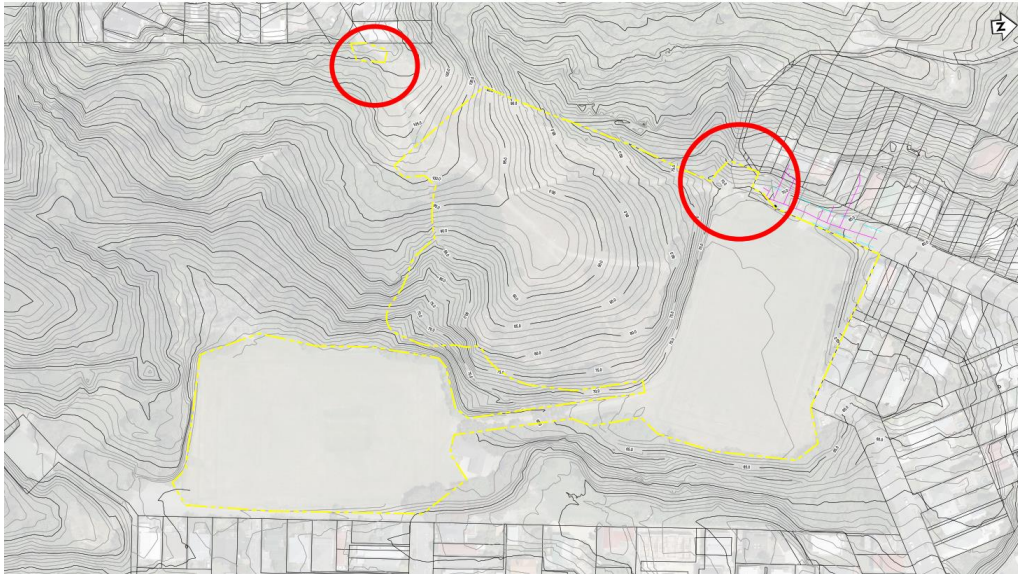


Figure 2: Proposed licence area

Application to vary Licence Condition LC.6

This application is submitted pursuant to Licence Condition LC.6 to vary the licence area. The application is submitted concurrently with a Notice of Requirement for an alteration to the Omāroro Reservoir Designation (Designation 135). The Notice of Requirement application includes a comprehensive Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) with supporting appendices.

It has been agreed with WCC Parks Team (via email on 23rd April 2020) that this application pursuant to Licence Condition LC.6 shall cross-reference the relevant information and reports within the Notice of Requirement application to demonstrate that the requirements of Licence Condition LC.6 have been met. This approach has been agreed to avoid the duplication of information.

Details of the relevant sections of the AEE and supporting documents which address Licence Condition LC.6 are provided within Table 1 below:

Licence Condition LC.6: Licence area variation	
<i>The licence area may be varied with the written approval of the WCC Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning.</i>	
<i>Any variation proposal will be assessed to consider the extent and effect of the variation, and any positive, including net positive, effects associated with the variation.</i>	
<i>Any variation that is considered by the WCC Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning to be more than minor and not able to generate a net positive effect may require a new licence application process.</i>	
<i>Any proposal to vary the licence area must be in writing and must include the following information:</i>	
<i>(a) A written proposal, with a clear map(s) and/or diagram(s), outlining the need for</i>	<i>The requirement for the variation, rationale for this and details of the activities to be</i>

<p><i>the variation, the proposed variation area, any activities proposed to be undertaken within the variation area, and an appropriate assessment of the effect(s) of the licence area variation</i></p>	<p>undertaken within the variation area are provided in Section 3: Proposed Designation within the AEE. Drawings detailing these are included at Appendix A: Drawings.</p> <p>A detailed assessment of the effects of the variation is provided in Section 4: Assessment of Environmental Effects and supporting appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix B: Ecology Memorandum: Dorking Road • Appendix C: Ecology Memorandum: Buffer Encroachment • Appendix D: Ecology Memorandum: Rolleston Street Chambers and Stormwater Inlet Relocation • Appendix E: Arboricultural Report • Appendix F: Transport Assessment
<p><i>(b) Details, if any, of any proposed work(s) or activity(ies) that may be used to offset or mitigate any effect(s) of the proposed licence area variation</i></p>	<p>Measures to mitigate the effects of the proposed activities include additional planting along the Waitangi Stream tributary (to be secured through the Landscape and Ecology Management Plan required by Designation Condition 11), implementation of a Tree Protection Methodology to protect the totara tree on Dorking Road (to be secured by a new Designation Condition) and implementation of erosion and sediment control measures (secured by Condition 8 of the GWRC consent).</p> <p>The proposed works will be managed in accordance with the Management Plans secured by Designation Condition 11 (notably the Construction Management Plan, Construction Traffic Management Plan and Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan).</p> <p>Full details are provided within the AEE within the following sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 3.3.3 Proposed Planting and Appendix D: Ecology Memorandum: Rolleston Street Chambers and Stormwater Inlet Relocation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 3.6 Proposed Arboricultural Condition • Section 4 Assessment of Environmental Effects (notably 4.1 Ecology, 4.2 Arboricultural and 4.5 Erosion and Sediment Control)
<i>(c) Details, if any, of any temporary or permanent positive effect(s), including net positive effects, on the Town Belt that may be associated with the licence area variation</i>	<p>The licence area variation will allow for the successful construction, operation and maintenance of the Omāroro Reservoir.</p> <p>The variation will provide a permanent positive effect with additional planting along the Waitangi Stream tributary, which is proposed in addition to the enrichment planting included within the approved draft landscaping proposal.</p>
<i>(d) A summary and assessment, appropriate to the scale and effect of the proposed licence area variation, of any alternative options considered to avoid or reduce the need for any variation to the licence area, including any reasonable licence area variation alternative(s)</i>	<p>Alternative approaches considered for the for the valve chambers and pipework, Waitangi Stream tributary stormwater inlet and the Dorking Road access are detailed in Section 6.1 of the AEE.</p>
<i>(e) A summary of consultation undertaken with and feedback received from the Community Reference Group (CRG).</i>	<p>Full details of the consultation undertaken and feedback received from the CRG is provided within Section 6.1 of the AEE and within Appendix G: Consultation Responses and Appendix G: Response to CRG.</p>
<p><i>The parties acknowledge that the Wellington Town Belt Act 2016 (WTBA) governs the granting of licences within the Wellington Town Belt.</i></p> <p><i>No term of the licence or any variation proposed by it in accordance with this clause LC6 may breach any provisions of the WTBA. If the WCC Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning determines (acting reasonably) that any proposed variation.</i></p>	<p>The construction, operation and maintenance of the Omāroro Reservoir appropriately satisfies the principles of Section 4 of the Wellington Town Belt Act (WTBA) and the rules and guidelines for use and development within the Town Belt within the Wellington Town Belt Management Plan (2018) (WTBMP).</p> <p>This proposed variation does not breach any of the provisions of the WTBA or the rules and guidelines within the WTBMP.</p>

Table 1: Schedule of requirements of Licence Condition LC.6

In summary, this application to vary the licence area will facilitate the construction, operation and maintenance of the Omāroro Reservoir, which will provide significant benefits to the Wellington community. The reservoir will enhance the safety, reliability, and resilience of the city’s water storage network and will also directly contribute toward

enhancing the city's ability to service expected future growth and to withstand and recover from disaster events.

The proposed amendments to the licence area are minor, and the localised effects associated with the construction activities proposed within the licence area variation will be mitigated by site and activity management plans. With regard to the relocation of the stormwater inlet at the top of Rolleston Street, additional planting along the Waitangi Stream tributary is proposed to offset the loss of 3m of open stream which will enhance the stream habitat in this location.

Full details of the proposed activities, the rationale for these and an assessment of the environmental effects are provided within the Notice of Requirement application and, as agreed with WCC Parks, the location of the relevant details within the Assessment of Environmental Effects has been cross-referenced within this letter to avoid the duplication of information.

We trust that the information provided is satisfactory and that the written approval of the WCC Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning can be provided to confirm the variation of the licence area.

Yours sincerely



Angela Penfold
Wellington Water Ltd