

11 April 2016

The Commissioners
Proposed District Plan Hearings Panel
Kapiti Coast District Council
Via e-mail

Dear Hearings Commissioners

RE: HEARINGS FOR CHAPTER 2 – PROPOSED KAPITI COAST DISTRICT PLAN

1. Please find below the written submission of Winstone Aggregates (“**Winstone**”) in response to the Council Officer’s recommendations in the Section 42A report regarding the Winstone submissions.
2. Winstone sought a specific objective to address minerals in Chapter 2 and policies in later sections of the Proposed District Plan. Winstone considers that there is a strong policy direction from the Regional Policy Statement (“**RPS**”) for this.

Giving Effect to the Regional Policy Statement

3. The RPS includes specific objectives and policies that need to be given effect to in reviewing a District Plan. Of significance is Objective 31 of the RPS which states:

30. The demand for mineral resources is met from resources located in close proximity to the areas of demand”.

4. Policy 60 also states:

Policy 60: Utilising the region’s mineral resources – consideration

When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, particular regard shall be given to:

- (a) the social, economic, and environmental benefits from utilising mineral resources within the region; and
- (b) protecting significant mineral resources from incompatible or inappropriate land uses alongside.

Explanation

Policy 60 directs that particular regard be given to the social, economic, and environmental benefits of utilising *mineral resources* within the region. It also requires that particular regard be given to protecting *significant mineral resources* from incompatible and inappropriate land use alongside. This protection extends to both the land required for the working site and associated access routes. Examples of methods to protect *significant mineral resources* include the use of buffer areas in which *sensitive activities* may be restricted, and the use of noise reduction measures and visual screening.

Method 52, when implemented, will identify the locations of *significant mineral resources* within the region.

5. To give effect to the above, Winstone considers that it’s important for the Chapter 2 of the Proposed District Plan to recognise:
 - i. the benefits and positive effects for communities from the supply and use of aggregates;
 - ii. the need to safeguard and enhance opportunities to extract aggregates;

- iii. that objectives and policies need to be focused on outcomes, providing certainty for everyone as to what is foreseeable and expected;
 - iv. that aggregate resources are in fixed locations and that access to quality and economically extractable aggregate is a priority to support community wellbeing;
 - v. that aggregates resources need to be mapped in the District Plan; and
 - vi. that aggregate resources and extraction sites need to be protected from new sensitive activities.
6. The submitter considers that to achieve the purpose of the Act and give effect to the RPS, Chapter 2 should be amended to include a specific objective to address minerals.
 7. Winstone considers that mineral extraction activities are of regional significance. They provide aggregates to support the development of infrastructure of local, regional and national significance. This includes aggregates used in roading and reticulated infrastructure development, along with building and construction industries associated with growth. Put simply, minerals are essential to the continued development of the District.

New Objective

8. Winstone maintains the view that a new objective is necessary in giving effect to the RPS and implementing Part 2 of the RMA. The amendment sought is:

Objective 2.X

To enable Kapiti's mineral needs to be largely met from within the District, while ensuring that:

- extractive industries are appropriately established and managed;
- land based components of river gravel extraction activities continue to assist in flood mitigation; and
- quarries and mineral resources that are presently or potentially valuable for extraction, and transport routes are not unnecessarily compromised.

Explanation

Minerals are essential for the development of the District and Region. These include, but are not limited to:

- aggregates (stone, rock, sand, gravel) for industry, construction and infrastructure.
- limestone deposits which are used in the manufacture of fertilisers, roading basecourse and cement.
- clay for brick, ceramics and pottery products.

At their peak, the Region's extractive industries produced nearly 2 1/2 million tonnes per year of aggregates. The demand for minerals, particularly aggregates, is expected to increase. This will service new growth as well as the renew and maintain buildings, roads and infrastructure. Given anticipated increases in demand, the District's dependence on minerals makes the availability of an accessible supply of minerals a matter of importance.

Specific provisions are included for extractive industries due to their importance in the development of buildings, roads and infrastructure, and their use by industry. These provisions seek to ensure that the demand for minerals can be met, where possible, from supply sources within the District. This will require the identification of existing sites and enabling new sites through resource consent or specific rules.

Yours sincerely



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