

**Before the Hearings Panel
At Kāpiti Coast District Council**

**Statement of evidence of Ramesh Valiakulathinkal NarayanaPillai
on behalf of Kāpiti Coast
District Council (Water Network Planning)**

Date: 24 August 2025

INTRODUCTION:

- 1 My full name is Ramesh Valiakulathinkal NarayanaPillai (Ramesh Pillai).
I am employed as a Manager Water and Wastewater Services at Kāpiti Coast District Council.
- 2 I have prepared this statement of evidence on behalf of the Kāpiti Coast District Council (**Council**) in respect of Council's Annual and Long-Term Plan to upgrade watermains that are relevant to Private Plan Change -5 (PPC-5) site.
- 3 Specifically, this statement of evidence relates to the following matters:
 - a) Provide an overview of KCDC's approach to watermain upgrades in response to development pressure, covering relevant projects currently funded through the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan and 2026/27 Annual Plan, future projects identified in the 2024-54 Infrastructure Strategy, and any recent analysis that may change the proposed scope, funding or timing of these upgrades.
- 4 I am authorised to provide this evidence on behalf of the Council.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 5 I hold the qualifications of New Zealand Diploma in Infrastructure Asset Management, and a diploma in Mechanical Engineering (India).
- 6 I have worked for Metrowater Ltd (now Watercare), Capacity Infrastructure Services Ltd (now Tiaki Wai), Napier City Council, and Kāpiti Coast District Council for around 18 years in various Asset Engineering/Management roles.

Code of conduct

7 I have read the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the Environment Court's Practice Note 2023¹. I have complied with the Code of Conduct in preparing my evidence and will continue to comply with it while giving oral evidence before the Environment Court. My qualifications as an expert are set out above. Except where I state I rely on the evidence of another person, I confirm that the issues addressed in this statement of evidence are within my area of expertise, and I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from my expressed opinions.

INVOLVEMENT WITH THE PRIVATE PLAN CHANGE 5

8 I have been involved in the PPC-5 since 14th August 2026. Although I was not involved in earlier review stages of the plan change request, I have familiarised myself with the relevant water modelling assessment report *110 Te Moana Road Water Supply Assessment* prepared by Stantec on behalf of KCDC, dated 12th August 2026.

9 I have also read the Statement of Evidence of Ms. Kate Waterland (Water network planning) dated 10 August 2026.

SCOPE OF EVIDENCE

10 My statement of evidence addresses water supply matters, specifically:

- KCDC's approach to water upgrades responding to development pressure.
- Currently funded water upgrade projects in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan and 2026/2027 Annual Plan that are relevant to this site
- Future water upgrade projects in the 2024-2054 Infrastructure Strategy relevant to this site

¹ <https://environmentcourt.govt.nz/assets/Practice-Note-2023-.pdf>

- Recent analysis to inform future funding and timing of water upgrade projects which is different to the above.

11 In preparing my evidence, I have read the following reports and evidence:

- a) *Engineering Infrastructure Report to Support Plan Change – 100 & 110 Te Moana Road, Waikanae*, prepared by Cuttriss on behalf of the PPC5 applicant, and dated 3 April 2025.

EVALUATION

12 As outlined in Ms. Waterland’s evidence, there is currently insufficient capacity in Waikanae’s water supply network to serve the PPC5 site.

13 The KCDC water master model Zone Management Plan (ZMP) updated in 2024 has identified water network constraints for enabling growth in Waikanae. The model has been further updated by including recent known growth in the network; developments that are currently under construction or in the consent stage. The model update also includes the anticipated future residential development that would be enabled by PPC-5.

14 To enable overall growth in Waikanae KCDC has included approximately \$20M in the LTP 2024-34 (which will be revised as required in next LTP) for required capital projects including, but not limited to:

- A new 5.5ML reservoir in Waikanae
- Several kilometres of new trunk main, and upgrades of existing watermains

15 The exact timing of other watermain upgrades cannot be confirmed at this stage, as delivery is dependent on the timing and scale of development proposals as well as the necessary land acquisition, resource consenting requirements, and deliverability within specific financial years for each upgrade. Coordination between multiple competing developments is also a factor.

16 As an interim measure, KCDC is investigating the option of temporarily establishing a connection between the Hemi District Metering Area (DMA) and the Te Moana Road DMA boundaries, that will cater to some of the demand including that from PPC-5 future development. This

option is suggested in the *110 Te Moana Water Supply Assessment* prepared by Stantec.

- 17 Council is also currently progressing the design for 1.8 km of trunk main (section of new water trunk main from Kakariki Grove to 99 Old State Highway 1, Waikanae as recommended in the Zone Management Plan), and the construction is expected to be completed by 2027-28.

CONCLUSION

- 18 Based on the updated Zone Management Plan (Oct 2024) and subsequent modelling, KCDC has identified water network constraints and associated upgrade requirements to support growth in Waikanae, including demand associated with proposed PPC-5. KCDC has included capital projects in its planning and budget provisions for growth-related water infrastructure, including a new 5.5ML reservoir in Waikanae, new trunk mains and upgrades to existing watermains. Around \$20 million has been identified for potable network upgrades in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan period for these growth-related works, noting that this will be reviewed through future LTP processes as required.

- 19 As an interim measure, KCDC is assessing interconnectivity between the Hemi DMA and Te Moana Road DMA to cater for some of the demand, including demand associated with PPC-5, as recommended in the *110 Te Moana Water Supply Assessment* prepared by Stantec dated 12 August 2026. Design is also progressing for approximately 1.8 km of new trunk main from Kākāriki Grove to 99 Old State Highway 1, Waikanae, with construction expected to be completed by 2027-28. Once these upgrades are in place, there will be sufficient headroom and capacity in the network to support future residential development on the PPC5 site. However, the exact timing of other watermain upgrades cannot be confirmed at this stage, as delivery is dependent on development proposals, land acquisition, resource consenting requirements, deliverability within specific financial years and coordination between multiple competing developments.

Date: 24 August 2026


Ramesh Pillai