



MWH

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Wellington Regional Council
10 JUL 2009

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*Alistair Cross
Environmental Regulation
Greater Wellington Regional
Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington*

MWH Ref: z1449801

3 July 2009

Greater Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 41
MASTERTON

Attention: Stephen Thawley
Team Leader, Consents and Compliance, Environmental Regulation

Dear Stephen

Further Information Request - Wairarapa Aggregates Proposed Quarry and associated cleanfill operation resource consents

I am writing in response your letter of 22nd June 2009 from Greater Wellington, as lead agency, requesting items of further information on behalf of both Greater Wellington Regional Council and Carterton District Council in relation to the above resource consents at the Kiwi Lumber site.

I address the requested items of further information below:

Greater Wellington Regional Council

1. Water Levels

Please refer to the enclosed Proposed Gravel Extraction and Cleanfill Operation Effects on Water Resources report. Section 3.1 of the report provides ground water level monitoring data and details on an appropriate finished quarry level based on the monitoring data collected. Appendix A of the report provides bore log information for monitoring bores at the proposed quarry site.

2. Contaminated site issues

It is our understanding that the site has never been part of the Waingawa Freezing Works and has only been used for agricultural purposes in the past. The Freezing Works site is understood to be approximately 150m at the closest point to the application site, and to the east of the wetland areas. Any storage or disposal of sawdust is outside the application area. If necessary a bund will be placed along the edge of the site to prevent any runoff into the working area.

3. Erosion and Sediment Control issues

Please find enclosed as an appendix to the Quarry Management Plan, a revised Erosion and Sediment Control plan which addresses the areas identified in your letter as requiring further assessment.



In addition, below is a response to each of the specific points raised in your letter:

- ***The ESCG requires a separate settlement pond for every 3 hectare catchment of exposed site. The quarry proposal is for an area of nearly 12 hectares, suggesting a possible need for 4 ponds rather than 1. Following discussions with Al Cross at your meeting on 10 June, we determined that the separate (second tier) ponds would be in addition to the single large pond at the downstream (north eastern end of the site.***

Please refer to the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan included as Appendix 1 of the enclosed Quarry Management Plan and revised plans showing the additional settlement ponds to be provided.

The site area has been confirmed as 9.2ha. One settlement pond will be provided in Stage 1, two settlement ponds in Stage 2 and three ponds for Stage 3.

- ***The ESCG advises sediment retention pond life should be restricted to less than 2 years and where they are required for a longer term then extra measures are required to ensure stability and effectiveness. Please provide detailed plans for such measures in relation to the second tier ponds and details of how all ponds would be maintained through the life of the activity and how design and maintenance elements can be checked against those listed in the ESCG. If you believe that a particular element is not required or uses a different specification, please provide justification for doing so. We will also need to understand how water will flow (direction) between the sumps, settlement ponds and eventual discharge points.***

Please refer to Section 1.4 (Maintenance Schedule for Treatment Control Structures) of the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan appended to the Quarry Management Plan. The direction of water flow is indicated on the revised plans in the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.

- ***Although there is an element of staging, the plans indicate that Stage 2 will be underway before covering stage 1 which alone is just over 3 hectares in area. Please provide more detail on staging and how sediment pond requirements will be met.***

Please refer to the revised plans in the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.

- ***In the Quarry Management Plan reference is made to sump/sediment pits for washing aggregate. The ESDCG provides a design guide for these types structures. Please provide further sufficient design information for your proposed structures to be checked against these guidelines.***

Please refer to Section 2.2.7 (Water Management) of the Quarry Management Plan.

- ***The ESCG provides for stormwater diversion bunds to be designed to a 5% AEP not a 5 year ARI (which is only 0.18% AEP) as stated in your ESCP. It is not clear whether diverted clean stormwater can drain into the water race via overland flow. There needs to be greater clarity about direction of discharge flow and management of clean stormwater discharge points.***

References in the Quarry Management Plan have been amended to refer to a 5% AEP. Please refer to the enclosed plans in the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, showing clean stormwater discharge points.

- ***The information provided in relation to site maintenance and rehabilitation so far does not provide a complete schedule as suggested by section 7.7 in the ESCG. Please provide details for at least for the first stage of the operation as relevant.***

Please refer to section 1.3 (Sediment Retention Ponds) of the Quarry Management Plan.

4. Quarry Maintenance and Rehabilitation Plans

Section 3.3 of the QMP outlines the management of air emissions. In relation to dust management, it is correct that amongst the methods of management is to be the use of water spraying. The site will not involve permanent processing or clean filling, but it is to be manned during normal working hours for sales and receipt of clean fill material. Therefore there will be people and equipment on site to address any dust that occurs. Activities on the site are not expected to generate more dust than other types of processing in the Wairarapa, and Wairarapa Aggregates has no history of dust incidents or complaints from its other operations in the Wairarapa.

In respect of future uses of the site, no application has been made for any future use, and the land is zoned for rural activities, rather than rural residential. It is expected that the site will be top soiled and returned to pasture. The enclosed Quarry Management Plan does not refer to any future use of the site for rural residential.

The Quarry Management Plan has also been amended to include a number of small revisions to ensure the document is technically accurate. These changes include:

- Updating the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
- Clarifying terminology between stockpiles and perimeter bunds
- Corrections relating to the dimensioning of the extent of the earth mat wires associated with the Radio New Zealand mast
- Updating plans to show the water race will not be affected by the Quarry operation
- Clarifying the cross sections on the plans
- Redesigning the sediment pond configuration
- Including second tier ponds on the revised plans
- Providing more detail on staging on the plans
- Showing the discharge points from clean stormwater on the plans
- Inserting Section 1.3.8 into the Quarry Management Plan
- Recalculating the total area of quarry excavation, partially due to the increase in Radio New Zealand mast and earth mat wire area and areas not affected downhill of fault line below RL 124
- Revising section 2.2.7 (Water Management) of the Quarry Management Plan

Please replace the previous version of the Quarry Management Plan (November 2008) with the copy enclosed dated July 2009 (Revision 2) and the revised Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (Revision C).



5. Discharge locations

Discharges will be from sediment ponds into an unnamed stream which heads south underneath the quarry access road to the central wetland.

Carterton District Council

1. An assessment by a qualified hydrogeologist assessing the affects of the proposal on surface and groundwater inputs to the protected swamp area (QE2 and RAP)

Please refer to the enclosed Effects on Water Resources report and Quarry Management Plan. These documents provide detail on any discharge and potential impacts on the adjacent protected wetland area.

I trust that the information above is satisfactory to complete the assessment of the application. Please contact me on 381 5755 if you have any further queries or wish to discuss the matters above in more detail.

Yours sincerely

Gen Hewett
Senior Planner
MWH New Zealand Limited

Encl: Proposed Gravel Extraction and Cleanfill Operation – Effects on Water Resources
Kiwi Lumber Proposed Quarry Site, Masterton, Quarry Management Plan, July 2009

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