

**WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 1 TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN FOR THE WELLINGTON REGION**

**MINUTE 6**

**REQUEST FOR SUBMITTER LEGAL SUBMISSIONS TO BE FILED AFTER COUNCIL REBUTTAL**

1. In Minute 5 we amended the filing timetable so that legal submissions presented on behalf of submitters ('legal submissions') are now required to be filed by 4pm on 21 March 2025.
2. On Friday 14 March soon after 5pm we received a request from counsel for Porirua City Council (S240) seeking that legal submissions be filed on 1 April 2025. The request also proposed that Council's rebuttal be filed by 4pm on 26 March to allow legal submissions to focus on the unresolved issues in light of Council's rebuttal. As an alternative Counsel for PCC proposed that Council rebuttal is filed on 28 March (as previously directed) but that legal submissions are then filed the following week.
3. We do not agree to this request. Even if the efficiency gains the submitter foresees are achieved, we need to balance this with other considerations including Council's ability to review and respond to submitters' relief, and the time the panels need to review and digest the large volume of material before us for HS2 and prepare for the hearing.
4. We encourage all submitters to provide at the hearing any 'updates' to their outstanding relief in light of Council rebuttal. This will be very helpful for us to identify the remaining points of contention.



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Dhilum Nightingale  
Chair  
Freshwater Hearing Panel  
Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearing Panel