

From: [Chris Simmons](#)
To: [Alissa Sluys](#)
Cc: [Kitt Littlejohn](#); [Brett Hood](#); [Phil Mitchell](#); [Mike Doesburg](#); [Blair Masefield](#); [Stacey Sharp](#); [Marlene Oliver](#)
Subject: Northport Limited - Direction No. 17
Date: Thursday, 21 March 2024 11:46:13 am

Kia ora Ali,

Introduction/background

Further to the below correspondence, we have received Direction 17 from the Hearing Panel. Direction 17 sets out the overarching matters (para 7) and specific questions (para 8 and Attachment 2) that the Hearing Panel seeks are addressed in expert conferencing, and requests a response on certain practical issues (para 10). We respond to Direction 17 below.

Attendees

We have liaised with representatives for NRC and propose that the following persons attend the conferencing:

For Northport (4 attendees):

- Either Brett Hood or Phil Mitchell (planner)
- James Blackburn (chartered engineer specialising in stormwater management, hydrology, and flooding)
- Jon Williamson (hydrogeologist)
- Greg Blomfield (company representative)

We note that Mr Blomfield is not an independent expert. He would however bring important practical/factual information relevant to stormwater processes at the site, and we consider his attendance at conferencing would be beneficial. While not able to confirm adherence to the code of conduct for expert witnesses, Mr Blomfield would otherwise adhere to the process, including signing any JWS. We have discussed his potential attendance with NRC representatives, who have indicated they have no objection.

For NRC (2 attendees):

- Blair Masefield (planner)
- A stormwater expert, to be confirmed.

Process and timing

To be most efficient:

1. We are comfortable that conferencing be conducted via AVL.
2. We suggest that participants be asked to prepare and circulate in advance their position on the specific questions posed by the Hearing Panel.
3. We have discussed with NRC representatives whether a scribe can be provided to assist the facilitator at conferencing. We understand that a Beca employee is available. Northport agrees to this arrangement.

Particularly to allow time for NRC to confirm its stormwater expert, and for participants to prepare their position as suggested in point 2 above, we suggest that conferencing be scheduled not earlier than the week commencing 8 April. Northport's experts/attendees are available on any of 8, 9, or 12 April (noting that Mr Blackburn is unavailable the following week). We have

provided these dates to NRC representatives, who require some additional time to confirm availability.

We look forward to receiving confirmation of the conferencing date as soon as convenient. In the meantime, we have copied this email to Ms Oliver as suggested.

Best regards, Chris



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