

3 February 2010

Ref: CO6C/18965

MEMORANDUM

FROM: DR HOWARD WILLIAMS (GROUNDWATER RESOURCES SCIENTIST)
TO: ANGELA DEAN
**SUBJECT: CENTRAL PLAINS WATER RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS –
GROUNDWATER AND DRAINAGE PLAN**

I assisted in the development of the Groundwater and Drainage Plan for the Central Plains Water resource consent conditions relating to groundwater quantity and quality.

I have read the comments made by the Lowland Farmers Group on these proposed conditions.

In response to their comments I note the following

- (1) **Data to be used for the baseline survey specified in condition 25(f) of Schedule 2:** The Lowland Farmers Group have suggested that the survey include at least 10 years of records. I agree with this comment and note that monthly flow monitoring data for most of the streams are available back to 1985. Given the climatic variability over this period, it would be useful to use all of these data to provide information on the natural variability of the flow regime.
- (2) **Response to groundwater complaints:** The Lowland Farmers Group has raised concern that there is no specified timeframe by which an investigation into a complaint is completed. In my opinion a preliminary investigation on basic water quantity and quality issues should be able to be completed in five days once a suitable and willing contractor has been contacted. If after the initial investigation it appears that further work is necessary, at least the initial investigation can provide some clarity as to cause and effect.