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**Dear Thomas** 

### **Request for Further Information**

Application Number/s: CRC223481

**Applicant Name: Margaret Jane Evans and Peter Hanan Evans** 

Activity Description: to use land for plantation forestry

As you are aware, Jessica Weston has been processing the above resource consent application. As Jessica is leaving Environment Canterbury, Nicola Duke will now be the planner processing this application.

The information listed in Attachment 1 to this letter is hereby requested under Section 92 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA). As this information is required in order to fully understand the potential effects of the proposal, we are unable to further process the application until it has been supplied.

The options available to you under Section 92A(1) of the RMA are summarised below. A response is required by 11 April 2022 - 15 working days. You must choose one of these options.

# A. Supply the requested information by 11 April 2022

If the information can be easily collated and supplied by this date, please provide it in writing (via email is fine) to Nicola.

## B. Agree in a written notice by 11 April 2022 to supply the information requested

Sometimes technical information will take some time to collate or key contacts may not be immediately available. If you need more time to supply the information requested, please advise Nicola in writing when you can provide the information. You can do this via email or letter.

# C. Refuse in a written notice by 11 April 2022 to supply the requested information

If you choose not to provide the requested information by the above date, or any date subsequently agreed to by the Canterbury Regional Council, then your application must be publicly notified and may be declined.

Public notification enables any member of the public, including potentially affected parties, to submit on your proposal. If submission/s are received on your application, then you can expect a hearing to be held. Information on <u>the notification process</u> and on the <u>likely costs</u> for notification and a hearing can be found on our website.

Please contact Nicola via email (Nicola.Duke@ecan.govt.nz) or phone (+64 3 367 7106) if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Kamali

**Team Leader Consents Planning** 

2 Kamali

#### **ATTACHMENT 1**

### Information Requested under Section 92 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Application Number/s: CRC223481 Date: 21/03/2022

## 1. Ecological impacts

I have received advice from the Canterbury Regional Council (CRC) Environmental Science and Hazards team, who consider the plantation forestry land use applied for under this consent could have adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity and ecosystems, both in terms of direct (on-site) effects and cross boundary (off-site) effects. The application area and surrounding area appears to contain habitats and ecosystems likely to support significant indigenous biodiversity (such as rocky outcrops) and is likely to be habitat for threatened/ at risk fauna such as native lizards.

a. Therefore, please describe measures to be taken to ensure no loss of significant indigenous biodiversity or indigenous biodiversity values as a result of the proposal. Include a monitoring plan designed to detect presence/absence of adverse effects and how and detected adverse environmental effects will be addressed.

I note that Canterbury Regional Policy Statement (CRPS) Policy 9.3.1: 'Protecting significant natural areas' and in particular Policy 9.3.1(3) "Areas identified as significant will be protected to ensure no net loss of indigenous biodiversity or indigenous biodiversity values as a result of land use activities."

a. Please provide an assessment of ecological significance of both directly and potentially affected areas against CRPS criteria.

## 2. Surface water and ecology

I sought advice from CRC surface water and ecology team who noted that the application states that there are no flowing waterways under the footprint of the proposed development area. However, there are likely intermittent if not at least ephemeral channels associated with this development area. These ephemeral systems are important sources of river catchments and their stability. In addition, the Taiko stream flows adjacent to the proposed development area, within 100m at some places. Therefore, it is useful to understand the relevant ecological values of this stream to assess the level of compliance of this development with national/regional policies and regulations outlined in the application.

- a. Please provide information on how the applicant plans to manage sediment loading and plantation debris accumulation in the waterways with and adjacent to the proposed development area (this applies to the other afforestation applications too).
- b. Please provide the details of the setback limits (proposed buffer areas) for this activity, especially related to the sensitive freshwater habitats next to the development area.
- c. Please provide an assessment of the Taiko stream's ecological values based on available information including but not limited to the general habitat types, riparian features and more importantly fish biodiversity (as per NIWA-New Zealand Freshwater Fish Database and relevant ECan Map layers), current conservation status of the fish, the occurrence of any spawning habitats.
- d. If there are sensitive environments such as fish spawning grounds or habitats of indigenous fish fauna occurring within or adjacent to the proposed development area,

- please provide an assessment detailing likely impacts of the proposed developments on such ecological values and how the applicant avoid/ minimise those impacts.
- e. Please describe measures to be taken to ensure no loss of significant indigenous biodiversity or indigenous biodiversity values as a result of the proposal. Include a monitoring plan designed to detect presence/absence of adverse effects and how and detected adverse environmental effects will be addressed.
- f. Is the applicant currently intending to harvest the forest after the given rotation period? If so, will it cause significant negative impacts on the adjoining waterways?