

BEFORE THE HEARING PANEL

UNDER	The Resource Management Act 1991
IN THE MATTER OF	A Notice of Requirement to construct and operate a new intermodal rail and freight hub on land between Palmerston North and Bunnythorpe
AND	A hearing by Palmerston North City Council pursuant to s 100A
REQUIRING AUTHORITY	KiwiRail Holdings Ltd
HEARING DATE	9 August 2021

**MEMORANDUM REGARDING THE REPORTS PREPARED BY THE SECTION 42A
REPORTING OFFICERS**

Dated: 18 June 2021



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Nicholas Jessen

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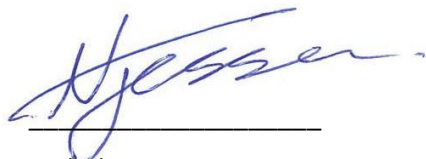
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MAY IT PLEASE THE HEARINGS PANEL

- [1] This Memorandum is to accompany the Planning Report and technical reports filed by the reporting officers engaged by the Council in accordance with s 42A of the Resource Management Act 1991, in respect of KiwiRail's Notice of Requirement ("**NoR**") to deliver a new Regional Freight Hub ("**Freight Hub**").
- [2] The reporting officers have prepared twelve reports on various expert topics relevant to the Panel's consideration of the NoR, and to aid the Panel in making recommendations to the requiring authority under s 171 of the RMA. The expert report topics cover various environmental issues identified by the Council's reporting team in KiwiRail's NoR (including the plans, assessment of environmental effects, multi-criteria analysis report, and technical assessment reports), s 92 responses, and submissions on the NoR.
- [3] The reports that have been prepared, and which will be available on the Council's website, are:
- (a) Section 42A Technical Officers' Planning Report – by Anita Coplestone and Phillip Percy;
 - (b) Technical Report on Traffic and Transport effects – by Harriet Fraser;
 - (c) Technical Report on Noise and Vibration effects - by Nigel Lloyd;
 - (d) Technical Report on Landscape and visual effects – by Chantal Whitby;
 - (e) Technical Report on ecological effects - by Justine Quinn;
 - (f) Technical Report on Stormwater and Flooding – by David Arseneau and Reiko Baugham;
 - (g) Technical Report on Lighting effects – by Glen Wright;
 - (h) Technical Report on Air quality effects – by Deborah Ryan;
 - (i) Technical Report on Social effects – by Amelia Linzey;

- (j) Technical Report on Economic effects – by Shane Vuletich;
 - (k) Technical Report on Palmerston North City Council Assets and Infrastructure – by Robert van Bentum; and
 - (l) Technical Report on Railway track design, construction and operation – by Michael Than.
- [4] Commensurate with the significance of the Freight Hub proposal, the reporting officers have thoroughly assessed the NoR and its effects, and this has resulted in extensive reports and recommendations. The reporting officers are aware of the time investments that will be required for participants to traverse these reports and understand their content. To help with this undertaking, the reporting officers have all prepared ‘executive summaries’ of their opinions, which can be found at the beginning of each report.
- [5] The Planning Report is a particularly comprehensive document, containing many conclusions and recommendations that draw from all information available in respect of the NoR. Ms Copplestone and Mr Percy considered that it would be helpful to prepare a ‘*companion document*’ to the Planning Report. This companion document includes a summary of the effects of the NoR and the authors’ recommendations in relation to those effects, including as to conditions on the designation. The report: “*s 42A Planning Report Companion document - Table of Effects and Recommendations*”, is available on the Council’s website for this project.
- [6] Finally, a table including all relevant planning provisions is being finalised, and will also be made available on the Council’s website for all participants.



Nicholas Jessen

Counsel