



**Minute of the Hearings Panel #11**  
**Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant**  
**GWRC WAR170229**

**Introduction**

1. On 23 July 2019, the Panel requested that the applicant and the GWRC respond to the Panel by no later than 5pm Friday 23 August July 2019 to provide an update on its current approach, which was to include:
  - i. Progress to date;
  - ii. An update on consultation undertaken to date;
  - iii. An updated timetable;
  - iv. A summary of relevant changes to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan; and
  - v. When a hearing may be scheduled.

**Response from the applicant and the GWRC**

2. The applicant and the GWRC provided a response to the Panel on the 23 August 2019, which provided an update on the matters covered in our minute of 23 July 2019. This included a discussion on the timing of the hearing, which the applicant and the GWRC advised as being unlikely to be completed before 1 November 2019 because of matters still needing to be progressed, as well as RMA procedural timeframes. The memo outlines that the applicant is preparing a request to further extend the timeframes under s37; which the GWRC has delegation for. The memo outlines that the parties are also still considering the decisions on submissions to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, noting that appeals close on 18 September 2019.
3. The applicant and GWRC offered to provide a progress and consultation update and updated timetable (if required) by 26 September 2019, as well as confirmation as to whether GWRC has granted an extension to timeframe for the hearing, and to when.

**Panel Response**

4. The Panel continues to consider the approach being taken by the applicant and GWRC is appropriate for the intention of working to resolve outstanding issues and to address the submitters' concerns.

**Updated Directions:**

5. Pursuant to sections 41 and 41C of the RMA, the Hearings Panel requests that the applicant and the GWRC respond to the Panel by no later than **5pm Friday 27 September 2019** to provide an update on its current approach, which shall include:
  - i. Progress to date;
  - ii. An update on consultation undertaken to date;
  - iii. An updated timetable;
  - iv. Whether an extension of time has been approved, and the revised timeframe for a hearing; and
  - v. A summary of relevant changes to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, as updated by any appeals.
6. In terms of the above request, any response shall be provided to GWRC electronically by email or be made available for downloading from the GWRC website <http://www.gw.govt.nz/Featherston-WWTP/>.

## Correspondence

7. Any correspondence to the Hearings Panel should be directed through [notifications@gw.govt.nz](mailto:notifications@gw.govt.nz).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gina Sweetman', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Gina Sweetman  
**Independent Commissioner – Chair**  
**For and behalf of the Hearings Panel**