

Minute from the Independent Hearings Panel Re:

Block 2 - Hearing Schedule for Proposed Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipa River Catchments

1. The following are the topics for the **Block 2 hearings** addressing submissions to **Part C**, being:
 - C1. Diffuse discharge management:
 - Overseer;
 - Four contaminants - Nitrogen, Phosphorus, *E.coli* and Sediment;
 - Nitrogen Management/Nitrogen Reference Point;
 - Reductions (75th percentile);
 - Land use change;
 - C2 Cultivation, slope and setbacks
 - C3. Certified Schemes.
 - C4. Stock exclusion
 - C5. Treaty settlement and Maori ancestral land
 - C6. Urban/point source discharges
2. The hearings will commence on **20 May 2019** and are planned to conclude on the **3 July 2019**¹.
3. The Hearing Panel directs the following:
 - The Council's section 42A report on these hearing topics will be available on the Council's website not later than **5 April 2019**. It will only cover the hearing topics set out above.
 - Evidence on these topics is due with the Council's Hearing Coordinator not later than **3 May 2019**.

¹ Noting that the hearings will generally be 3 days a week; mostly Monday - Wednesday.

- Any rebuttal evidence is due with the Council's Hearing Coordinator not later than **10 May 2019**.

Note 1- The evidence exchange dates set out in this Minute are more 'generous' than those set out in the "Hearing Procedures and Directions" document (dated 5 November 2018). This is due to the nature of the hearing topics. **For the avoidance of doubt**, the dates for lodgement of evidence specified in paragraph 3 above **supersede** the timings directed in the Hearings Procedures and Directions document in relation to this block of hearings. Notwithstanding this, you should refer to that document as it sets out a range of matters, including the required evidence format.

Note 2 – As set out in the Hearing Procedures and Directions document, the Hearing Panel requested any opening legal submissions be pre-circulated in advance of the submitter's hearing session (preferably at least three (3) working days prior to the hearing session). We again request this as the Hearing Panel and submitters will be assisted if the legal submissions can be pre-read.

Note 3 - All evidence and legal submissions are to be filed with the Hearing Coordinator, Mr Rice, at steve@riceres.co.nz (this has a 20mb mail box).

4. Within hearing Block 2 it is proposed (as far as is possible) to group some of the hearings by sub topic. This will be to enable submitters addressing the same topic to be heard together. This will primarily apply to submissions relating to point source discharges and Treaty settlement and Maori ancestral land.
5. The Hearing Coordinator will attempt to coordinate those submitters wishing to present on those topics. This will require submitters to contact the Hearing Coordinator as soon as possible to advise if you wish to be heard and the amount of time required. The Hearing Coordinator notes that for Block 1 hearings many submitters did not respond to his communications for appearance details, and urges submitters to do so as set out above².
6. With respect to the hearing of Block 3, a more detailed hearings schedule will be provided closer to the time; setting out any Forum (mediation and/or expert conferencing) dates, the date the section 42A will be available and the evidence exchange dates. The timeframes set out in the Hearing Procedures and Directions document will apply unless otherwise advised in a future minute.

² An up-to-date hearing schedule is on the Council's website

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Hill", followed by a period.

Greg Hill

Chair of the Hearing Panel

18 March 2019