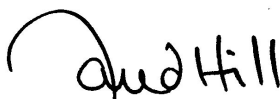


IN THE MATTER OF the Resource Management Act 1991
AND
IN THE MATTER OF Proposed Private Plan Change 7:
Rotokauri North (PC7) to the
Hamilton City Operative District Plan.

SECTION 41 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
DIRECTION / MINUTE #9
INDEPENDENT HEARING PANEL

1. Following receipt of Green Seed's reply submissions and supplementary evidence from Mr Hills and Mr Tollemache / Ms Fraser-Smith, the Hearing Panel, having considered that information, has determined that the hearing may now be closed.
2. In the Reply submissions it is noted that a potential confusion arises with respect to the meaning of the phrase "... a hearing ... is not completed ..." in the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2021, currently before Parliament. The import being that if a hearing is not completed by 20 February 2022, then a plan change is required to be withdrawn if it fails to include certain matters specified in that Bill.
3. The Reply notes that the Bill is silent on the question as to whether that phrase means completion of the actual hearing or intends the release of the decision. The Hearing Panel is therefore invited to include the following statement:

"In closing the hearing, the Panel has made the assumption that the hearing is now "completed" in terms of new Part 4 that is to be inserted into Schedule 12 of the RMA, in accordance with Clause 16 of the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2021."
4. The Panel is not persuaded that adding this statement makes any real difference to how the Bill, if enacted, is to be construed should our decision not be released prior to that date. However, we see no harm in including it as that accords with a plain English reading of the phrase.
5. Any queries or correspondence related to this Direction should be sent through the Hearing Administrator, Mr Steve Rice: steve@riceres.co.nz.



David Hill (Chairperson)
Independent Hearing Panel

22 November 2021