IN THE MATTER of the Resource

Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of Hearing of Submissions

and Further Submissions on the Proposed Porirua

District Plan

Minute 47 - Stream 6 Follow Up (2)

- During the course of the Hearing Panel's deliberation on Stream 6 matters, we considered the rollover of designation RNZ-01 in light in particular of the SNA and ONFL overlays in the notified Plan affecting the land currently the subject of the designation (and submissions heard in Stream 2 seeking extension of same).
- 2. Mr Smeaton's recommendation to us, as part of the Council's Reply, is that there is a low risk of adverse effects on the values sought to be protected by those overlays in practice, given the progressive reduction in Radio New Zealand's activities and structures on the site, and that any residual risk can appropriately be addressed as part of the Outline Plan process. Mr Smeaton may well be correct as to the level of risk. We certainly have no evidence to the contrary. However, his reasoning prompted us to wonder why the whole site needs to be designated for the Requiring Authority to achieve its objectives, and whether a more efficient and effective way to manage those risks might be to reduce the spatial ambit of the designation.
- 3. We appreciate that there may well be reasons why the Requiring Authority needs to maintain tight control over some areas outside the existing fence around the Transmission Tower and related buildings, for example by reason of the need to preserve a buffer for management of radio waves.
- 4. We have difficulty, however, understanding why such a large area should need to be designated, particularly given the competing environmental values that Section 6 of the RMA identifies as being matters of national importance applying to parts of the site.

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- 5. Accordingly, we invite the Requiring Authority to advise us as to the reason why Designation RNZ-01 should extend to cover the entire site, and whether its objectives might be met by designation of a smaller area (and if so, what that would be).
- 6. We request that any response from the Requiring Authority be provided in writing to the Hearing Administrator by 19 August. We are open to enlarging that timeline if the Requiring Authority needs more time to consider the question we have posed.

Dated 4 August 2022

Trevor Robinson Chair

For the Proposed Porirua District Plan Hearings Panel

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