

BEFORE THE SOUTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

IN THE MATTER OF:

Resource Consent Application: **APP-20211135**

APPLICANT: **Catchment Operations Division, Environment Southland**

Minute of Hearing Commissioner Allan Cubitt

1. The hearing for Environment Southland's Catchment Operations Division application in relation to the Titiroa tidegates at Middleton Road, Fortrose, was conducted at Invercargill on the 30th of August 2024. The hearing was adjourned to enable the submitters a more appropriate timeframe to consider the amended proposal put forward by the applicant at the hearing. It was agreed by the applicant that they would liaise with the submitters on a timetable for that. Following that process, ecological and planning expert conferencing would occur and the hearing would be reconvened, if necessary.
2. However, prior to that process occurring, further information is required from the applicant to better understand the effects of the proposal. This information is as follows:
 - (a) At section 3.4, the Model Build Report stated that various tide scenarios had not been modelled and that the model was simply demonstrating the trends within the system. It would assist myself and the submitters if the model can be run to determine at what water level it becomes apparent that the tide waters will have a more than minor effect on the upstream improved pasture land.
 - (b) Clarification on what area of land would be affected by the removal of the gates. (Several figures, ranging from 9 hectares to 11,500 hectares have been referenced within the various documents).
 - (c) Assessment of how the gates may be modified to enable the passage of kanakana.
 - (d) Assessment of the downstream effects of removing the gate. What impact would this have on habitat now adapted to the current situation?
3. I anticipate that some of this work may take some time to complete. Hence, I direct the applicant to advise what time will be needed to provide this information, and what time the submitters may need to consider the revised proposal, by 5pm on the 11th of September 2024.
4. Please direct all correspondence to the Consents Co-ordinator, Ms Ongko, at catherine.ongko@es.govt.nz or on 03 211 5115

Dated: 2 September 2024



Allan Cubitt
Hearing Commissioner