

BEFORE THE MANAWATU-WANGANUI REGIONAL COUNCIL

IN THE MATTER OF **A review of conditions of Discharge Permits 6009,6010,6011,7289 and 102259, all of which relate to the Levin Landfill operated by the Horowhenua District Council.**

FIRST MINUTE OF COMMISSIONERS – EXPERT CAUCUSING

Dated August 2 2016

FIRST MINUTE OF COMMISSIONERS

- 1 From time to time Regional Council officers have been updating us with progress on this review application.
- 2 We understand that a pre-hearing meeting was held some time ago for the purpose of better understanding the issues in contention and where possible endeavouring to reach agreement on a preferred outcome as between the Regional Council, the District Council and submitters.
- 3 We further understand that a hearing will take place during the month of September on a date, time and place which all participants will be duly notified of.
- 4 In preparation for that hearing we understand that experts engaged by some participants are informally meeting during early August to caucus on agreed issues for the purpose of reaching an agreed statement on some issues.
- 5 The purpose of this minute is to inform all participants that caucusing between the experts is occurring and inform them they are welcome to have their experts engage in this process. Any participant who wishes to engage should contact the hearings officer Carina Hickey on 06 952 2827 or email at Carina.Hickey@horizons.govt.nz, who will provide information as to time and place when caucusing will be occurring.
- 6 If the caucusing is successful and there are agreed outcomes it is expected that those outcomes will be recorded in writing and duly signed by the relevant experts. Those caucusing outcomes will ultimately form part of the evidence which will be presented to us as Commissioners.
- 7 It would be very helpful so as to ensure the hearing process is efficient to have all relevant experts involved in caucusing. This would prevent difficulties occurring when evidence is being prepared and presented.
- 8 It is our expectation that the reporting officers will be taking into account within the section 42A reports those caucusing outcomes.



Chair on Behalf of the Panel.