Before the Board of Inquiry
Waterview Connection Project


and

in the matter of: a Board of Inquiry appointed under s 149J of the Resource Management Act 1991 to decide notices of requirement and resource consent applications by the NZ Transport Agency for the Waterview Connection Project

Expert Caucusing Joint Report to the Board of Inquiry – Coastal Processes

Dated: 28th January 2011

Due: 7 February 2011
EXPERT CAUCUSING JOINT REPORT TO THE BOARD OF INQUIRY

INTRODUCTION

1 This joint signed report is written in response to the Board of Inquiry's Minute and Directions dated 23 December 2010. The Directions require the experts, following caucusing, to provide a report by 10am on 7 February 2011 "that includes:

- Areas that have been resolved and how (e.g. by agreement about conditions)
- Areas that are not resolved, and succinctly why."

2 This report relates to the caucusing topic of Coastal Processes.

3 Caucusing meeting(s) were held on 28th January 2011.

4 Attendees at the meetings were:

- Dr Rob Bell, Coastal Scientist, Representing NZTA.
- Dr Sharon De Luca, Marine Ecologist, Representing NZTA.
- Dr Brian Stewart, Marine Scientist, Representing the Board of Inquiry.
- Dr Mark Bellingham, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand.
- Mr Michael Coote, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, Motu Manawa Restoration Group.

AREAS THAT HAVE BEEN RESOLVED

Decommissioning of the Rosebank Culvert

5 We agree that the Western inlet of Waterview Estuary does need more circulation. However, the current poorly designed culvert system is not sustainable in the long term for providing water circulation. We agree that the culvert should be decommissioned.

Chenier (shell) ridges and remediation

6 We agree that the chenier ridges are important features and habitat. We are all satisfied with condition C.12.
Navigation for vessels under slightly lower Whau Bridge.

We agree that the slightly lower Whau Bridge is not a significant issue.

Sea-level rise and causeway height

We agree that a monitoring condition for sea-level rise does not need to be included in the Project conditions, as this is a Regional Council responsibility.

Fast currents under Causeway Bridges and less headspace for kayakers

We agree that fast currents and less headspace under the Causeway Bridges is not a significant issue.

Level of information on coastal processes and suspended sediment modelling are not adequate.

We agree that the level of information on coastal processes provided by Dr Bell is sufficient, but that the historic background data is inadequate.

AREAS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED

Decommissioning of the Rosebank Culvert

Mark Bellingham and Michael Coote propose a new properly designed replacement culvert be created and a channel, similar to 1950's channel, be excavated.

Sharon De Luca, Rob Bell and Brian Stewart did not agree with a replacement culvert due to the issues around habitat loss and mobilisation of historic sediment bound contaminants.

Date: 28 January 2011

Dr Sharon De Luca

Dr Rob Bell
Dr Brian Stewart

Dr Mark Bellingham

Mr Michael Coote