



**Minute of the Hearings Panel #12**  
**Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant**  
**GWRC WAR170229**

**Introduction**

1. On 26 August 2019, the Panel requested that the applicant and the GWRC respond to the Panel by no later than 5pm Friday 27 September 2019 to provide an update on its current approach, which was to include:
  - i. Progress to date;
  - ii. An update on consultation undertaken to date;
  - iii. An updated timetable;
  - iv. Whether an extension of time has been approved, and the revised timeframe for a hearing; and
  - v. A summary of relevant changes to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, as updated by any appeals.

**Further section 37 extension of time**

2. On 26 September 2019, GWRC issued a further extension to the time limit to complete the hearing on the consent to 29 May 2020. A copy of this extension is on the GWRC website. <http://www.gw.govt.nz/Featherston-WWTP/>.

**Response to Minute 11 from the applicant and the GWRC**

3. The applicant and the GWRC provided a response to the Panel on the 27 September 2019, which provided an update on the matters covered in our minute of 26 August 2019. This included:
  - a. An update on progress to date, identifying further work is still progressing on pathogen sampling, groundwater monitoring and effects assessment, quantitative microbial risk assessment, an assessment of an add-on technology, soil survey interpretation and expert workshops;
  - b. An update on consultation undertaken to date;
  - c. An updated timetable showing matters in progress to deal with outstanding issues;
  - d. A discussion on the extension of time and a revised timeframe for the hearing;
  - e. An update on appeals to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan; and
  - f. Suggested timing for a further update.
4. The applicant and GWRC offered to provide a further update by 1 November 2019.

**Panel Response**

5. The Panel continues to consider the approach being taken by the applicant and GWRC is appropriate for the intention of working to resolve outstanding issues and to address the submitters' concerns.

**Updated Directions:**

6. Pursuant to sections 41 and 41C of the RMA, the Hearings Panel requests that the applicant and the GWRC respond to the Panel by no later than **5pm Friday 1 November 2019** to provide an update on its current approach, which shall include:
  - i. Progress to date;
  - ii. An update on consultation undertaken to date;
  - iii. An updated timetable;
  - iv. The revised timeframe for a hearing; and
  - v. A summary of relevant changes to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan, as updated by any appeals.

7. In terms of the above request, any response shall be provided to GWRC electronically by email or be made available for downloading from the GWRC website <http://www.gw.govt.nz/Featherston-WWTP/>.

### **Correspondence**

8. Any correspondence to the Hearings Panel should be directed through [notifications@gw.govt.nz](mailto:notifications@gw.govt.nz).



Gina Sweetman  
**Independent Commissioner – Chair**  
**For and behalf of the Hearings Panel**