

Environment Canterbury Regional Council
PO Box 345
CHRISTCHURCH 8140

22 October 2015

Attention: Sarah Drummond (Planning Hearings Officer)

Dear Sarah

New Zealand Fire Service Commission - Letter to be tabled for Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan Hearing

The New Zealand Fire Service ('NZFS'), representing the NZFS Commission, has opted not to attend the hearing set for 27 October 2015, regarding the Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan ('the Proposed Plan'). We request that this letter be tabled for the Commissioners' consideration in lieu of the NZFS's attendance.

The Officer's report for the Proposed Plan has been received. This report is correct in its summary of the NZFS Commission's submission points, as set out on pages 11-4, 12-3, 12-4 and 12-5 of the report.

The NZFS Commission supported the retention of Policy 6.18, and an amendment to Policy 6.16 to exempt firefighting research and training. The NZFS Commission notes and appreciates that the Officer's report has recommended the acceptance of these submission points. This will provide clarity and direction that this activity is appropriate and necessary in order to prepare for actual fire emergencies.

The NZFS Commission requested that the wording of Rule 7.4 be refined to ensure that the NZFS have the ability to burn certain materials for the purposes of firefighting training. The NZFS Commission notes and appreciates that the Officer's report has recommended alterations to that affect.

The NZFS Commission supported the retention of Rule 7.6, to allow for live burns associated with firefighting training and research. It is noted that this proposed rule has been amended in the Officer's recommendations. The NZFS Commission supports the recommended amendments.

The NZFS Commission requests that, if the Commissioners are of a mind to approve the Proposed Plan, that the Officer's recommendations referenced above be accepted. The NZFS Commission appreciates the opportunity to be involved in the Plan Review process, in the interests of promoting the safety of the community with regards to protection from fire.

Should you have any queries please contact myself or Ian Duncan (NZFS Principal Advisor Fire Risk Management for the Canterbury Region) on (027) 703 0435 or ian.duncan@fire.org.nz.

Yours sincerely



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Planner

on behalf of

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