

From: [Georgina Hamilton](#)
To: [Plan Hearings](#)
Cc: [Marley Regenvanu](#)
Subject: Plan Change 7: Barker Fruit Processors Ltd (PC7-391) - Evidence
Date: Friday, 17 July 2020 2:41:54 pm
Attachments: [FINAL EIC Barker Fruit Processing Limited.pdf](#)

Dear Tavisha

We act for Barker Fruit Processors Ltd (Submitter No. PC7-391).

We **attach** for filing a statement of evidence in chief in relation to the above matter of Malpati Regenvanu on behalf of the submitter.

Kind regards,

Georgina Hamilton
Partner



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**BEFORE INDEPENDANT HEARING COMMISSIONERS
APPOINTED BY THE CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL**

UNDER: the Resource Management Act 1991

IN THE MATTER OF: Proposed Plan Change 7 to the
Canterbury Land and Water Regional
Plan – Section 14: Orari-Temuka-Opihi-
Pareora

**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF MALPATI REGENVANU ON BEHALF OF
BARKER FRUIT PROCESSORS LIMITED
(SUBMITTER NO. PC7-391)**

Dated: 17 July 2020

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1. INTRODUCTION

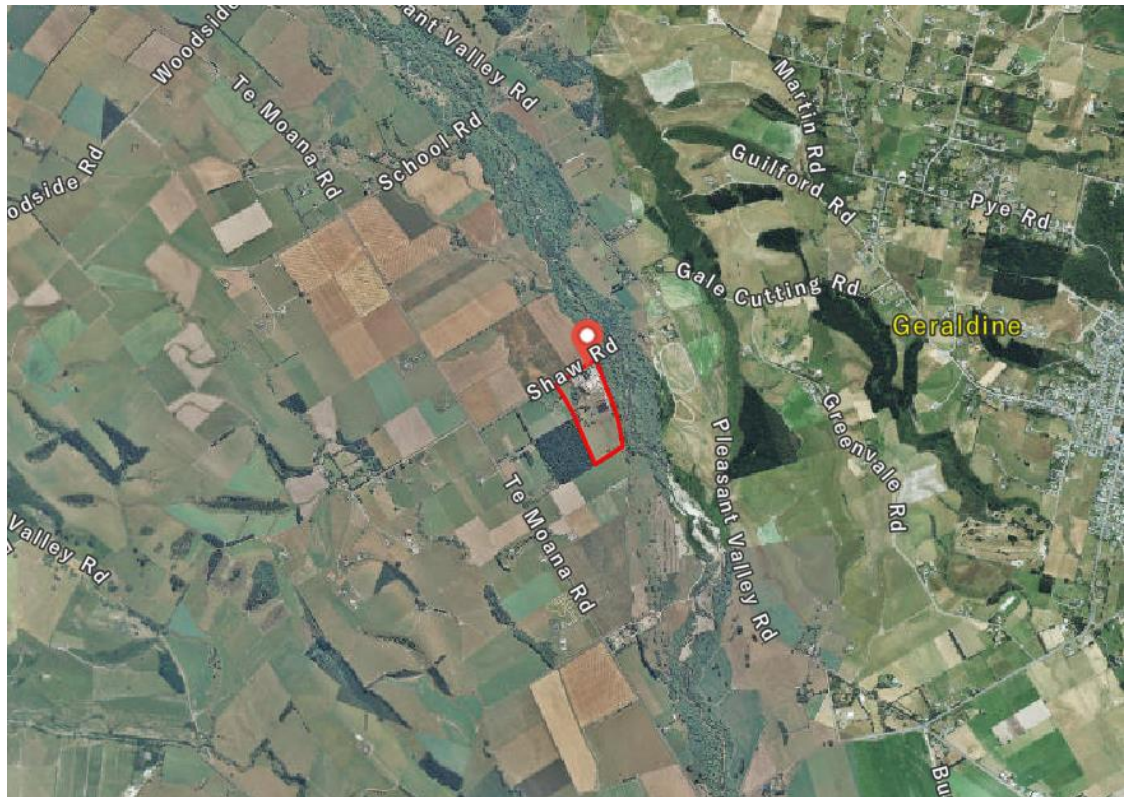
- 1.1 My name is Malpati Regenvanu.
- 1.2 I am the Environmental Health and Safety Manager of Barker Fruit Processors, a fruit and vegetable processing plant that is located on Shaw Road, Pleasant Valley, Geraldine.
- 1.3 I have been in the role for the organisation since April 2019 and prior to that involved in manufacturing plants for Fonterra (Clandeboye) and Tasman Tanning (NZ Light Leathers). I have a PGDipSci in Environmental Science and have been involved in two different catchment groups for the OTOP sub region (Orari and Temuka) over the last 4 years.
- 1.4 I am authorised to provide evidence on Barker's behalf in this matter.
- 1.5 I am familiar with the Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Plan and the issues raised in Barker's submission in September of 2019.
- 1.6 Barkers has been an active member of the Temuka Catchment Working Party since its formation and accordingly is supportive of its submissions and those of the Temuka Catchment Group Inc.

2. SCOPE OF EVIDENCE

- 2.1 The purpose of this evidence is to:
 - (a) Provide an overview of the organisation and the day to day operations of the manufacturing plant at Shaw Road;
 - (b) Provide an overview of the water use associated with the plant's operations;
 - (c) Summarise the consenting framework within which Barker's operates its manufacturing plant; and
 - (d) Summarise the current status of Barker's community water supply with Ministry of Health and Environment Canterbury.

3. OVERVIEW OF BARKER'S OPERATIONS AND CONSENTS

- 3.1 Barker's manufacturing plant is a fruit and vegetable processing facility situated on Shaw Road in Pleasant Valley, Geraldine, alongside the Te Moana River, as shown in the location map below:



- 3.2 The plant operates 17hrs/day for 5 days/week for the majority of the year. The plant currently generates more than 11000 Tonnes of product per annum using products sourced from both local and national growers.
- 3.3 The facility is made up of a first processing operation and 5 secondary processing lines generating over 800 products which are supplied as retail consumer goods; as food service solutions; and as food ingredients for other industrial applications.
- 3.4 In addition to the manufacturing facility at Shaw Road the organisation also operates a Foodstore and Eatery in Geraldine and a Distribution Centre in Winchester. The organisation has a branch of the sales and marketing division based in Auckland and sales staff supporting regions throughout New Zealand.

- 3.5 Barker's employs up to 250 staff of which more than 90% are residents of the local South Canterbury community. There are approximately 130 full time staff on the processing line and the organisation also utilises temporary worker solutions depending on seasonal processing. The remaining staff are in support, management or administrative positions.
- 3.6 Barker's not only supports the local community directly through employment at the plant and within the organisation, but also through the engagement of local contractors and other local suppliers of goods and services to the Factory.
- 3.7 The fruit and vegetables for processing are sourced locally as much as possible with many local growers reliant on the organisation as a processing facility for their produce. When local fruit and vegetables cannot be sourced Barker's will source them nationally and only at times choose selected imported ingredients that cannot be sourced in New Zealand.
- 3.8 The manufacturing plant was established over 50 years ago on its current Shaw Road site. The site was the original Barker family farm and grew from initial wine and liqueur production from the farm's fruit to the current facility utilising local and national growers to supply the raw material to produce a variety of fruit and vegetable based products.
- 3.9 The ongoing viability of the plant and the future sustainability of the organisation is reliant on a secure potable ground water supply as the factory has no access to reticulated water services.
- 3.10 Certainty of continued access to a reliable water supply is not only critical to Barkers' present and future processing operations, but also for the provision of other community water supply purposes such as rural fire-fighting, in addition to local employment and the revenue earned by Barkers' growers.
- 3.11 A secure potable water supply is required for processing in the plant in accordance with New Zealand Drinking Water Standards and also to adhere to Overseas Market Access requirements. This water supply is the source for all staff drinking and amenity supplies, for cleaning and processing, for washing down of plant facilities and as ingredient water for the products made.
- 3.12 As the plant has no access to reticulated water services all water required for operating the plant is abstracted from groundwater from two bores authorised

for community supply under resource consent CRC166228. The level of water abstracted can vary depending on processing requirements. Typically the plant will use between 150 and 250m³ of water on each processing day (typically Monday to Friday). Bore J38/0331 is a shallow 8m deep bore at location BZ19:55963-16226 and Bore BZ19/0146 is 52.66m deep at map reference BZ19:55810-16173.

- 3.13 These bores are protected by a community water supply protection zone, which was established endorsed by ECan through the resource consenting process resulting in the issue of CRC166228. Barkers has also developed and implemented a water supply strategy in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 25 of the CLWRP. However, the confirmed community water supply protection zone is not presently recorded in Canterbury Maps.
- 3.14 Barker's is conscious that water is a limited resource in the catchment and is careful to ensure that it is used as efficiently as possible.
- 3.15 Barkers has implemented water efficiency measures at the plant and is continually investigating new technologies and water use reduction initiatives for its processing equipment and processes.
- 3.16 Land based irrigation of wastewater from its factory operations is an integral part of the entire processing operation and the organisation takes the appropriate management to ensure there is no detrimental effect on the receiving environment when disposing of wastewater. This irrigation of factory generated wastewater is undertaken under resource consent CRC192862 (application to land) and CRC102378 (storage of wastewater).
- 3.17 The organisation has been categorised as a self supplier with the Ministry of Health (**MoH**) and a community water supply with Environment Canterbury. The organisation has applied for this to be recognised in MoH registers and Canterbury Maps. It also meets the requirements of the CLWRP population criteria of supplying over 25 people for a period of more than 60 days per year.
- 3.18 The above noted status, in addition to the role the manufacturing site and the organisation plays in the local community in terms of employment both directly and indirectly through the provision of services and raw materials will be directly implicated if the current allocation was scaled back.

- 3.19 Any future capacity increase or expansion of the site will need the continued access to this reliable water supply to protecting Barkers' existing and future water requirements, recognising the importance of the take and its operations for the community, through the provision of community water supply, employment and economic prosperity. As noted in Barker's submission on PC7, this would comprise a further allocation of 20 L/s, which was built into the recommendations of the Temuka Catchment Working Party to the OTOP Zone Committee given the importance of Barker's operations to the local community.
- 3.20 The plant's operations are largely governed by the ability to access the reliable water supply and Barker's requires sufficient flexibility (through its resource consents) to be able to adjust processing operations to match present demand and the changing needs of the industry into the future.

4. APPROACH IN PC7

- 4.1 Given the importance of a continued reliable water supply to Barker's processing operation requirements (current and future) and other community water supply purposes as discussed earlier in my evidence, it was necessary for Barkers to take an active role in the work of the Temuka Catchment Working Party during the OTOP Zone Implementation Programme Addendum development process, and subsequently file a submission on PC7.
- 4.2 Barkers remains of the view that the decisions requested in its submission on PC7 are necessary to ensure that the importance of the Barker's water supply is fully recognised, provided for and/or protected in the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.

Malpati Regenvanu

17 July 2020