



2020-B-07023

14 August 2020

Dr Stefanie Rixecker
Chief Executive
Environment Canterbury Regional Council
stefanie.rixecker@ecan.govt.nz

Dear Dr Rixecker

Application by Environment Canterbury Regional Council (ECan) for a 120 working day extension of time to publicly notify their proposed plan change to Chapter 6 of the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement (CRPS) and the consequent extension of the overall timeframe of their Streamline Planning Process (SPP) under clause 81, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

On 10 July 2020, ECan lodged an application for a 120 working day extension of time to publicly notify its proposed plan change to Chapter 6 of the CRPS and the consequent extension of the overall timeframe of their SPP (Gazette Notice 2020-go1780 Proposed Change to Chapter 6 of the CRPS).

Pursuant to clause 81, Schedule 1 RMA, I approve a 120 working day extension of time prior to public notification of the proposed change to Chapter 6 of the CRPS, which also extends the overall timeframe for processing this SPP. Public notification for ECan's plan change must therefore be held no later than 120 working days after gazettal of my Direction, and the total time period within which the ECan SPP plan change must be completed will be no later than 205 working days after gazettal of my Direction.

The reasons for my decision are as follows:

- a. The extension will ensure that ECan will be able to re-evaluate its proposed changes to Chapter 6 of the CRPS to reflect the NPS-UD. The extension will allow for consideration and engagement with stakeholders on the implications of the NPS-UD and will ensure a more efficient and straightforward process for the remainder of the SPP process.
- b. A robust decision should be based on the Proposed Change being consistent with the NPS-UD, which will allow for efficient and appropriate planning outcomes. The risks of not granting the extension of time are potential further delays as a consequence of the Proposed Change being notified in its current form and not being consistent with the NPS-UD. This may require changes to the CRPS at a later date as a result of not being addressed at this current stage.
- c. ECan has the ability to publicly notify the Proposed Change to Chapter 6 of the CRPS if matters are resolved earlier than anticipated. The extension is for a maximum timeframe.

I also request that ECan update its website providing information relating to my decision on this SPP.

I wish you well with the remainder of your plan-making process.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Parker', is centered on a light gray rectangular background.

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment