

**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

**UPDATE AND SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE IN CHIEF OF KERI JOY JOHNSTON
ON BEHALF OF
OPUHA WATER LIMITED (SUBMITTER NO. PC7-381)**

Dated: 27 October 2020

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 My full name is Keri Joy Johnston. My experience and qualifications are set out in my primary statement dated 17 July 2020.
- 1.2 The purpose of this summary is to provide an update where my evidence in chief has changed since filing following expert caucusing. detail the remaining outstanding matters following caucusing and my opinion on each of those matters.

2. EXPERT CAUCUSING - HYDROLOGY

- 2.1 Table 19 of the Joint Witness Statement (JWS) of the hydrology witnesses details the agreed allocation figures for the Opihi FMU.
- 2.2 In my evidence in chief, I expressed the opinion that the Reporting Officer's recommendation to include an allocation of 5,600 L/s for AA, AN and BA permits in Table 14(ua) was incorrect as this figure was carried over from the Opihi River Regional Plan (ORRP), but is in fact the ORRP's allocation limit for the AA & AN takes for the entire Opihi FMU only, and does not include BA takes.
- 2.3 I remain of the view as expressed in my evidence in chief that Table 14(ua) should state appropriate Opihi FMU-wide AA+AN and BA+BN allocations. However, in light of the agreement reached at caucusing on current consented allocations across the Opihi FMU, I recommend that Table 14(ua) be amended to provide the following allocation limits for the "Opuha River + Opihi Mainstem":
 - (a) An AA+AN allocation limit of 4,687 L/s, being the sum of the agreed total current (consented) AA and AN allocations across the Opihi FMU¹, including the current allocation associated with existing takes from Lake Opuha (previously unaccounted for), and those from the Opuha River and Opihi Mainstem; and
 - (b) A BA+BN allocation limit of 9,951L/s, being the agreed total current (consented) BA allocation across the Opihi FMU (5,351 L/s) plus the

¹ Joint Witness Statement – Hydrology, at [19].

BN allocations under Table 14(y) as notified (which including current (consented) allocation plus allocation “headroom”) (4,600 L/s).

- 2.4 I note that this approach does not address the issue raised in my evidence in chief regarding the potential for the headroom proposed in Table 14(y) as notified being unintentionally reduced by BA permits being reclassified as BN takes in the event that OWL shareholding or other agreements or entitlements being relinquished.
- 2.5 However, having discussed this issue with Mr Ensor, we have agreed that increasing the BN block to accommodate this eventuality (which I suggested in my evidence in chief) would have the unintended consequence of undermining the BN allocation blocks provided for in Table 14(y), and potentially result in the over-allocation of the BN allocation blocks. This would obviously not be consistent with either national or regional policy, and on that basis, I consider the approach recommended above is appropriate.

Keri Joy Johnston

27 October 2020