## BEFORE THE HEARINGS PANEL APPOINTED BY CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL

UNDER the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA); and

**IN THE MATTER** of an application by Canterbury Regional Council for resource consent to discharge agrichemicals to rivers and their connected waterbodies, air and the coastal marine area, and the clearance of vegetation, for the purposes of weed management to provide flood, erosion, drainage and river enhancement works.

## Supplementary evidence of Jolene Margaret Irvine On behalf of Canterbury Regional Council (applicant) 31 March 2023

## Introduction

- My substantive evidence for the abovementioned application was submitted on 11 March 2024. I have since sought further guidance and seek to update my advice in relation to resource consents required in relation to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 (NES-F).
- The s.42A report and I both identified the need for resource consent under RMA section 9 and section 13 for the clearance of vegetation within wetlands, and within 10 metres of wetlands, due to non-compliance with the Permitted Activity regulations within the NES-F.
- 3. It was my view within paragraph 2, paragraphs 38-40 and 553c, of that evidence that *"I consider it appropriate that these consents are granted together"*.
- 4. This supplementary evidence is to update that view.
- 5. This does not impact my position that CRC222040, CRC222041 and CRC222043 can be granted.

## **Updated evidence**

- On reconsideration, I now consider it not possible to decide those s9 and s13 resource consents alongside CRC222040, CRC222041 and CRC222043 due to:
  - a. An application for those activities was not made in the correct format, and the Consent Authority has not formally received an application for those activities; and
  - b. The Hearing Commissioners are delegated to only decide CRC222040, CRC222041 and CRC222043.
- 7. I consider the impacts of agrichemical use in and within 10 metres of wetlands, with the outcome of clearing vegetation, has been considered and addressed throughout the AEE, evidence and s.42A report. I do not consider there to be any meaningful consequence, other than time and cost delays to the applicant, of not deciding those consents required under NES-F alongside CRC22040, CRC222041 and CRC222043.