

7 October 2019

Dear David,

Request for further information under section 92 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Application number:	CST60343373
Applicant:	Kaipara Limited
Proposed activity:	Continuation of existing sand extraction operation from the Auckland Offshore Sand Extraction site. Replacement consent for CST60260177
Site address:	Outer Hauraki Gulf in the vicinity of Pakiri and Little Barrier

I have undertaken a preliminary planning check of the above application. Under section 92 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), I request the following further information to enable an appropriate understanding of the proposal and assessment of its effects:

Ecology

1. The AEE states that underwater noise levels from the proposed dredging are expected to be insignificant. However, neither the AEE or the ecological assessment provide any information on underwater noise levels that are likely to be generated from the proposed extraction. Please provide the noise levels generated from the activity and provide an assessment of effects on marine mammals and fish species from the proposed underwater noise levels.
2. While it is noted that Section 5.3 of the ecological assessment provides an assessment on the effects of the continuation of sand extraction, this section does not address cumulative ecological effects or culumative effects on coastal processes. Please provide cumulative effects assessment in relation to the consent and other consents in the area. Please provide analysis on studies undertaken to support this claim if any.
3. The existing extraction tracking methodology covers a track of 10km, 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep. The proposed new method covers 3km, 1.8m, 0.3m deep. Please provide an ecological assessment of the new method.
4. Please provide an assessment of effects on water quality in relation to the proposed extraction.

Coastal Processes

5. The coastline adjacent to the proposed extraction area is a surf zone. The proposed extraction works fall within the swell corridor of the surf break. Please provide an assessment of how the surf zone will be affected by the proposal.
6. The application states that the proposed works fall out of the depth of closure and hence will not affect the coastline. Please provide a historical assessment of the coastline changes close to the extraction areas to demonstrate that the works did not affect the coastline.
7. Please confirm if the proposed area for extraction will be defined by co-ordinates or depth. The application documents state that the maximum depth of extraction will be 40m but the geographic coordinates show depths more than this.
8. Please provide a comparison of the baseline bathymetry at the beginning of the consent with the last bathymetry obtained and provide a comparison of changes in depth over the consent period.

Comments (not part of s92)

Please note that the draft EMMP needs to be further refined to make the monitoring more ecologically meaningful. However, it is considered appropriate to discuss this matter later, and no changes are requested to the EMMP in relation to coastal ecology at this stage.

The monitoring plan and the reports as provided with the current consent only provide for an assessment of the changes in the immediate extraction area and does not allow an understanding of the effects in the adjacent areas. The monitoring plan should be updated to allow an understanding of the effects of the extraction within the entire proposed area of extraction.

Written approvals

The AEE notes that the application was circulated to iwi. Please provide copies of all correspondence sent to iwi and any written approvals received.

You must provide this information within 15 working days (before 29 October 2019). If you are unable to provide the information within 15 working days, then please contact the reporting planner named below so that an alternative timeframe can be mutually agreed.

If you do not respond within 15 working days, refuse to provide the information or do not meet an agreed alternative timeframe between Council and yourself, this application must be publicly notified as required by section 95C of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Under section 88C of the RMA, the processing of your application is suspended until the above matters have been addressed, or the 15 working day time limit has expired.

Kind regards,

Gemma Hayes | Senior Planner

North West Resource Consents (Orewa)

Ph 09 427 3227 | Mobile 021 723 467

Auckland Council, Pacific Building, 50 Centreway Road, Orewa, Auckland

Visit our website: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz