

LONGWOOD WATER RACE CONSENT APPLICATION UPDATE

The application was lodged on 12th January 2020. On 27th January GWRC advised that the application required additional information and as such was being put on hold pending the receipt of additional information.

They and we have agreed to the following timelines for processing time to a point where the application can be accepted (s37 RMA)

- A time of 20 working days (until 25/2/2020) for GWRC and its environmental and hydrology experts to review and provide input on the application;
- A time of 40 working days (until 23/04/2020) for South Wairarapa District Council and its experts to review any points raised by GWRC; and
- A time of 20 working days (until 22/05/2020) for GWRC to complete an assessment of the application under s88 of the RMA

When this happens, the process can be restarted and GWRC still have the opportunity of requesting further explanation and information under the provisions of Section 92 RMA.

We have been advised (12th February) of some additional aspects requiring further investigative work and reporting. They include:

1. A more detailed assessment of river flows at the point of take
2. River morphology between the point of take and the discharge back to the river.
3. Assessment of effects in respect of hydrology and habitat downstream of the take
4. Impacts on ecological values, fish passage for the take and in stream impacts of water race discharge to Donald's Creek
5. Further analysis of discharge quality within the receiving environment
6. Effects of Maintenance within the water race system inclusive of habitat disturbance and aquatic life mortality.

We are expecting further requests in regard of impacts upon ground water, assessed leakage and evaporative and other losses etc etc

Council has engaged a freshwater ecologist (River Lakes Brian Hamill) a hydro geologist (Greg Butcher, Carterton) to assist with the additional reporting.

13th Feb 2020