



Document Id:

MEMORANDUM

To: Sarah Gardner and Gwyneth Elsum
From: Anita Dawe, Planning Manager
Date: 1 April 2020
Re: s37 RMA – Extension of Time

Purpose

To seek authorisation, in accordance with the ORC's Delegations Manual, to extend the time period for receiving submissions on Plan Change 7 (Water Permits).

Discussion

Section 37(1)(a) of the Act provides for an authority to extend a time period specified in this Act or in regulations, whether or not the time period has expired. The Delegations Manual provides for this extension to be approved by two of the following persons - Manager Planning, General Manager Strategy, Policy and Science, the Chief Executive, or the Hearing Panel or sole commissioner appointed to hear and determine a plan proposal.

Plan Change 7 (Water Permits) was publicly notified on Wednesday 18 March 2020 with the period for making submissions closing on 17 April 2020 (a period of 20 working days). Due to the unique situation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the community has been adjusting to significant change and upheaval. This has placed pressure on the ability of the community to properly consider and respond to the contents of the proposed plan change.

Given this, staff advice is to extend the time period for submissions for a further 11 working days, to recognise the situation and provide more time for the community to submit. We think it advantageous to the community if this decision is made relatively early in the process to provide certainty to the community. The extension of time would take the period for receiving submissions out until 5pm on Monday 4 May.

Given there has not been a Hearings Panel or Commissioner appointed, it is appropriate that the Chief Executive and General Manager, Strategy, Policy and Science exercise their delegation and approve the time extension.

No person or party would be prejudiced by the time extension and staff recommend that there is no legal impediment to granting the extension.

Request: That the Chief Executive, and the General Manager, Strategy, Policy and Science, exercise their delegation and approve an extension of the time period for receiving submissions on Plan Change 7(Water Permits) until **5pm on Monday 4 May**.

Decision under delegated authority:


That pursuant to section 37 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the period for making submissions on Plan Change 7 (Water Permits) to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago is extended until 5pm on Monday 4 May 2020.

That notice of this extension of time is given as soon as practicable in the Otago Daily Times and by way of direct communication with all persons notified of the plan change when it was first notified.

Signed



Sarah Gardner
Chief Executive
1 April 2020



Gwyneth Elsum
GM Strategy, Policy & Science
1 April 2020