

TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL

PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN CHANGE:

PLAN CHANGE 43: TAUPŌ INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT

MINUTE 22 OF THE INDEPENDENT HEARING PANEL

1. This Minute is being sent to you because you are either a submitter or a Council reporting officer to **PC43 Taupō Industrial Environments** to the District Plan.

Minute Purpose

2. On Tuesday 24 October 2023 the Panel received a further Memorandum from legal counsel for Taupo Industrial Estate Limited (**TEIL**) in response to our Minute 18 (dated 18 September 2023). This Minute responds to that Memorandum which is available for viewing on the Councils Website.

Response to TEIL

3. The Memorandum set out a request to have Mr Mark Chrisp participate in planner caucusing in relation to Site 7 of PC43. The Memorandum notes that Mr Chrisp prepared evidence for the PC43 hearing on behalf of Contact Energy but was unable to attend the hearing due to being overseas. Counsel for TEIL determined that no party would be prejudiced by his attendance.
4. We acknowledge that Mr Crisp provided evidence for the hearing of PC43 and that he could not attend. Mr Chrisp's evidence clearly states that it only briefly discusses Site 7 (detailed as Area 7 in his evidence) on the basis that the s42A report recommends that Contact's submission be accepted.¹
5. Mr Chrisp, as mentioned did not attend the hearing and so was unable to be questioned by the Panel on his evidence.
6. More importantly, Mr Chrisp did not provide expert evidence on the matter to be caucused on by the planners identified in our Minute 18 (i.e. residential/industrial interface) and this is a key tenant of expert witnesses involved in such a process.
7. The Panel is taking a strict approach to this matter. We have considered the request in detail but ultimately decline the request. In declining this request there is absolutely no reflection on Mr Chrisp himself or his professional ability.

Next steps

8. The JWS material is to be lodged with the Hearing Administrator by 1pm 3 November 2023 (one week prior to the Written Reply).
9. The Panel will provide subsequent Minutes on any further updates in relation

¹ Statement of Evidence Mark Bulpitt Chrisp for Contact Energy Ltd 9 August 2023 paras 10-13

to the hearing's proceedings in due course.

10. Any submitter enquiries relating to the above content and the hearing should be directed to the Hearing Administrators in the first instance Hilary Samuel or Haydee Wood and can be contacted at districtplan@taupo.govt.nz.

DATED Wednesday 25 October 2023



DJ McMahon

Chair - Independent Hearings Panel

For and on behalf of:

Commissioner Elizabeth Burge

Councillor Kevin Taylor

Councillor Yvonne Westerman