

**In the Environment Court
At Wellington**

**I te Kōti Taiao o Aotearoa
Ki te Whanganui-a-tara**

ENV-2024-WLG-

Between

**Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society
of New Zealand Inc**

Appellant

And

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Respondent

**Notice of intention by Wellington City
Council to be party to proceeding**

9 December 2024



Solicitor
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Notice of intention by Wellington City Council to be party to proceeding

To the Registrar
Environment Court
Wellington

- 1 The Wellington City Council (**WCC**) wishes to be a party to the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc's (**Forest and Bird**) appeal against parts of proposed change 1 to the Wellington Regional Policy Statement (**PC1 RPS**).
- 2 WCC is a territorial authority affected by PC1 RPS. WCC has various functions under the RMA, including the responsibility for establishing, implementing and reviewing its District Plan. The relief sought by Forest and Bird has a direct consequence on WCC's functions under the RMA and as a local authority. As such WCC is interested in all of the proceeding.
- 3 WCC is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the RMA.
- 4 WCC has appealed decisions on PC1 RPS. The reasons for WCC's appeal are that it has concerns about the timing and balancing of national direction, undue confusion between the relative responsibilities of WCC and the Greater Wellington Regional Council, and the practicability and workability of the RPS for territorial authorities.
- 5 WCC supports the relief sought by Forest and Bird that is consistent with its own appeal against parts of PC1 RPS and opposes any relief that is inconsistent with that appeal.
- 6 Additionally, WCC has recently undertaken hearings on its proposed district plan in respect of provisions managing indigenous biodiversity. The NPS-IB and proposed RPS-PC1 were considered in that process. Council decisions will be made in mid-2025 on proposed district plan indigenous biodiversity provisions. The direction of these documents will be relevant to the Council's decision. As such WCC is interested in proceedings on all those provisions that interpret, refine and implement the NPS-IB.

- 7 Relatedly, how the RPS balances the direction of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS), National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management (NPS-FM), and National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) is of particular interest to WCC.
- 8 WCC agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceeding.

Date: 9 December 2024



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Nick Whittington
Counsel for the Wellington City Council

Address for service

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