

**BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
AT AUCKLAND**

**I MUA I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
KI TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the **RMA**)

AND

IN THE MATTER of an appeal under clause 14(1) of Schedule 1 of the
RMA

BETWEEN **THE BUCKLAND COUNTRY LIVING LANDOWNERS
GROUP AND ORS**

ENV-2022-AKL-000049

Appellant

AND **WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Respondent

**NOTICE OF INTEREST UNDER SECTION 274 OF THE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991 BY AUCKLAND COUNCIL**

Dated: 5 April 2022

To: The Registrar
Environment Court
AUCKLAND

1. Auckland Council wishes to be a party to the following proceeding:

The appeal by The Buckland Country Living Landowners Group and Ors (**The Buckland Group**) on the decision of the Waikato District Council on the Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) (ENV-2022-AKL-000049).

Nature of Interest

2. Auckland Council made a submission on the PWDP about the subject matter of the proceedings.
3. Auckland Council is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**).

Extent of Interest

4. Auckland Council is interested in all the proceedings.

Particular issues

5. Without limiting the generality of paragraph 4 above, Auckland Council is interested in the following particular issues:
 - (a) The zoning of approximately 400ha land near the Auckland Council boundary; and
 - (b) Any amendment of provisions for the General Rural zone that would enable increased intensification on the approximately 400ha land near the Auckland Council boundary.

Relief Sought

6. Auckland Council **opposes** the relief sought in The Buckland Group's appeal for the following reasons:
 - (a) The Council supports the General Rural zone being applied as set out in the decision of the Waikato District Council.
 - (b) The proposed rezoning of land from General Rural to Rural Lifestyle zone would enable more rural lifestyle subdivision near the boundary with Auckland, particularly around the southern edge of Pukekohe. This could result in increased pressure on Auckland Council infrastructure and environmental cross-boundary issues for Auckland.

- (c) Without limiting the generality of the above, Auckland Council considers that:
- i. The subject land (approximately 400ha) is located adjacent to the boundary of the Auckland Region, by Pukekohe (around Yale's Road and Buckland Road).
 - ii. *General Rural* zoning will protect and retain high class soils, consistent with the approach taken by the Auckland Council to high class soils across the boundary.
 - iii. Rezoning the land from *General Rural* to *Rural Living* would enable more rural lifestyle growth adjacent to the boundary of Auckland and is likely to create cross boundary issues for Auckland.
 - iv. The cross-boundary issues that are likely to be created if the land were rezoned to *Rural Living* include, but are not limited to:
 - demands on Auckland Council infrastructure; and
 - *Rural living* zoning would not protect and retain high class soils.
7. Auckland Council seeks that the relief sought in the appeal be declined.
8. Auckland Council agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.

DATED the 5th day of April 2022



Corina Faesenkloet

Counsel for Auckland Council

Address for service:

Auckland Council
c/- Corina Faesenkloet
Level 15
135 Albert Street, Auckland
AUCKLAND 1142

corina.faesenkloet@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz