

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT  
AT CHRISTCHURCH  
I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA  
KI ŌTAUTAHI**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND of a notice of motion under section 149T(2) to decide proposed Plan Change 8: Water for Otago (referred to the Environment Court by the Minister for the Environment under section 142(2)(b) of the Act)

BETWEEN OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

(ENV-2020-CHC-128)

Applicant

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**MINUTE OF THE ENVIRONMENT COURT  
PLAN CHANGE 8  
FRIEND OF SUBMITTERS  
(25 May 2021)**

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[1] The court has appointed Jane Whyte as the Friend of Submitters for the upcoming Plan Change 8 mediations on primary sector topics. These topics are Discharge Policies Rural, Good Farming Practices, Stock Access to Water, Sediment Traps, Animal Waste Storage and Application and Intensive Grazing.

[2] The role of the Friend of Submitters is to:<sup>1</sup>

- (a) provide advice and support on the court's process in the lead up to, and including, mediation.

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<sup>1</sup> The Friend of Submitters is unable to provide advice on the merits of the parties' submissions or any evidence they may propose presenting to the court at a hearing. Nor can they give legal advice.



- (b) explain to parties how the mediations are to be conducted and how they can best prepare; and
- (c) assist parties, should they wish, to organise shared representation for participation in the mediations.

[3] Over the next week, Ms Whyte will contact<sup>2</sup> parties who do not appear to have legal or other professional representation to offer assistance. Indeed, any party is welcome to contact Ms Whyte if they have a matter that they would like assistance with.

[4] Ms Whyte will be available to conduct a remote electronic meeting<sup>3</sup> with individuals or groups. Alternatively, provided there is enough interest, 'in person' meetings with Ms Whyte will be arranged at suitable locations, like those that occurred for the Plan Change 7 hearing. In this event a further Minute will issue advising where and when such meeting(s) are planned.

[5] The court has asked that the PC8 primary sector mediations be completed by 9 July 2021. I will advise shortly in a further Minute the dates when the mediations on specific PC8 primary sector topics will be held and related arrangements.

[6] In the meantime, Ms Whyte's contact details are as follows:

**Jane Whyte:**

Telephone: 03 332 7449 or 027 259 5303

Email: [jane@responseplanning.co.nz](mailto:jane@responseplanning.co.nz)



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**R M Dunlop**  
**Deputy Environment Commissioner**

Issued: 25 May 2021

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<sup>2</sup> By telephone or email.

<sup>3</sup> Using Zoom, Microsoft Teams or a similar platform.