

14 June 2023

WHIRINAKI RESILIENCE PROJECT - COMMUNITY UPDATE

Background

You may be aware that Pan Pac Forest Products Limited, Contact Energy Limited and Transpower (the “Project Sponsors”) are working under urgency to establish and execute the Whirinaki Resilience Project. This Project will provide the necessary resilience and protection from future severe weather events and enable the confident recommissioning of these three nationally and regionally significant facilities at Whirinaki.

The Project Sponsors agree that the input from the Whirinaki community is key to the success of the project and therefore this letter provides an update on the project so far.

Project Purpose

The purpose of the project is to improve resilience for the Pan Pac Forest Products Limited, Contact Energy Limited and Transpower sites and the immediate established neighbouring community and ensure personal safety, business continuity, insurability, and community morale.

Project Objective

The project aims to review and consider the event and outcome of Cyclone Gabrielle in order to rapidly assess options and decide the best overall option to provide a long-term level of protection for the Pan Pac Forest Products Limited, Contact Energy Limited and Transpower substation sites and the immediate established neighbouring community and design, consent and install the preferred solution before the end of 2023.

Project Area

The area being considered as part of the project is restricted to the existing Whirinaki Flood Protection Scheme (including the Whirinaki Drain) and the area seaward of State Highway 2, including the Esk River mouth.

Project Team

The Project Team lead by Stephen Daysh (Mitchell Daysh Ltd) and Project Managers Reece O’Leary (Pan Pac Forest Products Ltd) and Anita Anderson (Mitchell Daysh Ltd) are supported by a team of key technical advisors that will identify and assess resilience and protection options.

Technical Focus Group

A Technical Focus Group (‘TFG’), made up of community and stakeholder representatives (including the three Councils) has been established to engage with the Project Team. The TFG will provide focused

and coordinated advice and input as part of a two-way information sharing process in the development of the resilience options being considered and the assessment studies for the preparation of any resource consent application(s).

The community representatives on the TFG are:

- Geoff Huggett - Whirinaki resident
- Mark Smith - North Shore Road resident
- Chris Brownlie - Bay View / Esk River right bank landowner
- Stan Evans - Esk River left bank landowner
- Mel Swayn - Bay View, Eskdale, Whirinaki Communications

The TFG will meet five times to as set out below:



TFG members have been encouraged to share the information and discussions from their involvement in the project within their respective communities / organisations. The project team will continue to provide updates via community letters and also arrange a drop-in session for the community to discuss preferred options following recommendations from the TFG process.

Project Team Contact Details

Feel free to contact the project team via email on:

- WhirinakiRP@mitchelldaysh.co.nz

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Daysh
Mitchell Daysh Limited