

PROPOSED FAR NORTH DISTRICT PLAN

MINUTE 39 OF THE INDEPENDENT HEARINGS PANEL

REQUEST FROM KIWI FRESH ORANGE COMPANY LIMITED FOR EXPERT CONFERENCING

1. Counsel for Kiwi Fresh Orange Company Limited (**KFO**) has sought in a Memorandum dated 19 November 2025 that we direct there be expert conferencing between KFO witnesses and the Council's reporting officers. In particular, KFO requests that we direct conferencing on the draft precinct provisions and the floodway concept as put forward by the KFO witnesses at the Hearing 15D session on 7 October 2025.
2. We have considered the request and supporting documents but find we do not have sufficient time to arrange and have carried out such expert conferencing before the officers report back to the Hearings Panel on 12 December 2025 in accordance with our hearings programme. The Panel and the Council are subject to a "tight" programme which involves completion of the hearings (including Council rights of reply), deliberations, writing 20 recommendation reports for the Council to consider and release of decisions by the Council by late May 2026.
3. We note that evidence was exchanged between the parties and KFO had the opportunity to present to the Hearings Panel on 7 October 2025, some 6 weeks before this current request. We also note the evidence currently before us is extensive and sets out in detail the proposed rezoning request and the matters in contention between KFO and the Council.
4. Accordingly, we do not accept the request.
5. If you have any questions regarding this Minute, please contact the Hearings Administrator Alicia-Kate (AK) Taihia - Submissions & Hearings Administrator District Plan: alicia-kate.taihia@fndc.govt.nz or (09) 4015247.


Robert Scott
Hearings Panel Chairperson

26 November 2025