

**Before the Independent Hearings Panel
Far North District Council**

Under: the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of: submissions and further submissions in relation to the proposed Far North District Plan

And: submission 551 (Lucklaw Farm Ltd)
Rangiputa WWTP - FN160

Memorandum of counsel for Lucklaw Farm Ltd - Minute 41

Designations Hearing 11 (submission 551) - Rangiputa WWTP - FN160

Dated: 17 February 2026

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1. The Minute number 41 provided directions in relation to the national planning instruments and invited any submitter wishing to comment on the Council's memorandum dated 30 January 2026.
2. It is acknowledged the hearing has closed, however for submitter Lucklaw Farm (submitter 551 – in relation to the Rangiputa Wastewater Treatment Plant Designation FN160) it is observed that the list of national instruments referred to in the Minute does not mention the Water Services (Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards) Regulations 2025, which came into force on 19 December 2025 i.e. after the hearings on designations, as heard before the Panel in April 2025.
3. The submitter wishes to bring to the attention of the Panel that the wastewater performance standards will likely affect existing small wastewater treatment plants in the Far North District (likely, including the Rangiputa Wastewater Treatment Plant FN160 the subject of submission by Lucklaw).
4. Of note, the Water Services (Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards) Regulations 2025 include standards:
 - a. for existing small wastewater treatment plants (refer regulation 58, etc),
 - b. for overflows (overflow as defined in reg 20) from wastewater networks – at subpart 1.
 - c. which apply for wastewater plants *close* to shellfish gathering areas – in regulations 62-65.
 - d. For the purposes of regulation 62(2) “close” means the point of discharge that is no more than 4 kilometres from a shellfish gathering area in a lake or the coastal marine area.
5. The submitter is available to address how the regulations may affect the submission of Lucklaw, if required by the Panel.

Dated: 17 February 2026



S. Ryan
Counsel for the submitter