

CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT COUNCIL

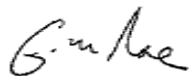
TKO PROPERTIES – RC230179

MINUTE 9 OF THE HEARING PANEL

1. The Panel has received a further memorandum from the Applicant, together with a copy of the Joint Witness Statement following the ecologists' expert witness conferencing in response to our Minute 8. These are attached for the information of the parties.
2. From our reading of the JWS the issues have certainly not been resolved and appear not to have been narrowed down at all. The Panel observes that it is now in the difficult position of having to evaluate conflicting ecological evidence on quite complex matters.
3. The Applicant's memorandum has asked that the Panel directs it to provide the 'final Right of Reply' by Monday 21 April, at which time it will include further directions to be sought (if any) as to closing the hearing.
4. However, we would prefer that the Right of Reply is the final position of the Applicant and does not raise further matters for the Panel to issue further directions on. We ask that the Applicant makes any response now, if it wishes, to the matters raised by the ecologists and in particular if it intends to:
 - (a) carry out any further site surveys and/or other work to increase the certainty regarding the assessments of effects; or
 - (b) make any amendments to the application (for example to the site layout or the intensity of development).
5. We are in the hands of the Applicant in that regard but wish to be advised ahead of the Right of Reply if there is to be any action taken in response to the JWS. Otherwise, the Applicant shall provide its written Right of Reply by **22 April 2025** whereupon the Panel will evaluate all of the evidence and submissions before us and make our decision.

DATED this 3rd day of April 2025

Signed by



GM Rae
Chair of Hearing Panel