



Beyond the Front Gate

Building Communities



MAY 2020
In this issue

Riccarton Road shaping up

In the early hours of Monday 23 March, a final coat of asphalt was laid on the east side of Riccarton Road – just hours before the COVID-19 lockdown was announced.

Final asphaltting of the road between Harakeke Street and Straven Road/ Clarence Street intersection marks the beginning of the end of Fulton Hogan’s year-long chapter on one of Christchurch’s busiest roads. The work to upgrade the Christchurch City Council’s “three waters” and roading has involved intensive planning, co-ordination of multiple resources and continuing stakeholder discussions. The project was expected to take two years, but this has accelerated considerably due to the joint efforts of the team.

There are just a couple of months of road cones and disruptions left on Riccarton Road now that the lockdown has been lifted and works are allowed to progress. During this time Fulton Hogan will be completing a final asphalt layer on the west side of Riccarton Road between the Straven Road/Clarence Street intersection and Matipo Street, along with the finishing touches of streetscaping, line marking and green surfacing.

It was recently announced that

most of the work would have been completed by Easter 2020, but with the COVID-19 shutdown the timeline will now be slightly delayed by a month or so. The site had been tidied up as much as possible in the interim of the lockdown.

Fulton Hogan Stakeholder Engagement Co-ordinator Suzie Pottinger appreciates this delay may be a disappointment for some in the community, but safety has always

been the highest priority. Suzie said “the team will hit the ground running on Riccarton Road now that the shutdown has been lifted” Suzie further commented,

“I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during these tough times – I hope you have all kept safe and I look forward to seeing you out and about as we return to work!”



Roydon quarry consent:
Air quality..

More on page 2/3.



Roydon quarry consent:
Selwyn District Council..

More on Page 2/3.



You want ice with that?
Fulton Hogan in Antarctica

More on Page 4.



Leading into and during the consent hearing process for Roydon quarry, air quality in and around the Yaldhurst/Templeton area was an issue of very high concern to residents located close to and within 1 km of the proposed quarry.

The air quality issue was one of the ones most robustly discussed by all parties in particular the expert witnesses. The commissioners gave particular credence to these submissions and in particular the content of the expert witness statements and subsequently the collaborative joint expert witness statements.

The excerpt below is in regards to the granting of the application and in particular to the Canterbury Air Regional Plan (CARP):

The Canterbury Air Regional Plan (CARP) does not set quantitative air quality thresholds. The CARP objectives seek:

- Ambient air quality provides for the health and wellbeing of the people of Canterbury;
- Degraded air quality is improved over time and where ambient air quality is acceptable it is maintained;
- Amenity values of the receiving environment are maintained;
- Offensive and objectionable effects and noxious or dangerous effects on the environment are generally avoided;
- Discharges from the new activities are appropriately located to take account of adjacent land uses and sensitive activities.

Policy 6.1 of the CARP sets a narrative threshold that discharges of contaminants into air do not cause:

- a. Adverse effects on human health and wellbeing; or
- b. Adverse effects on mauri and life supporting capacity of ecosystems, plants or animals; or
- c. Significant diminished visibility; or
- d. Significant soiling of corrosion of structures or property.

On the basis of our earlier findings in relation to the nuisance and human health effects likely to arise from the dust generated by quarrying activities, we find the application is consistent with this policy.

CARP Policy 6.8 states:

Offensive and objectionable effects are unacceptable and actively managed by plan provisions and the implementation of management plans.

We consider implementation of the DMP and the imposition of consent conditions limiting quarry operations in certain wind conditions will ensure that any offensive and objectionable effects beyond the site boundary can be avoided.

CARP Policy 6.9 states:

Discharges from new activities are appropriately located and separated from sensitive activities, taking into account land use anticipated by a proposed or operative plan and sensitivity of the receiving environment.

We find that the proposed quarry is appropriately located and separated from sensitive activities such as residences and businesses. We consider a minimum separation distance of 500m from aggregate processing and 200m from extraction activities (in the absence of approval to do otherwise from the affected parties) takes into account the sensitivity of the receiving environment.

CARP Policy 6.11 states:

When evaluating resource consent applications recognise locational constraints on activities, when imposing terms and conditions.

We have had regard to locational constraints on activities in determining the conditions to be imposed.

CARP Policy 12 states:

Where activities locate appropriately to mitigate adverse effects on air quality a longer consent duration may be available to provide on-going operational certainty.

We consider the applicant has appropriately located the activities with the highest potential for discharges to air to the CPSA and has increased the minimum distance between aggregate extraction and sensitive receptors to 200m. We have taken this into account in determining the consent duration.

CARP Policy 22 states:

Applications for resource consent for discharges of contaminants into air from large scale fuel burning devices and industrial or trade activities

shall identify the best practicable option to be adopted to minimise effects.

On the basis of the evidence of the air quality experts, we find that the design of the quarry and the dust mitigation measures proposed represent the best practicable option for minimising effects. We are satisfied that the ongoing review and implementation of a DMP will ensure the Applicant is required to assess the best practicable option for the duration of the consent.

CARP Policy 6.25 states:

Applications for resource consent for discharges into air from industrial or trade activities or large scale fuel burning devices classified as discretionary shall address:

- a. where the discharge includes PM10, the mass emission rate of the proposed discharge relative to the total emission rate of all discharges within the Clean Air Zone; and the degree to which the proposed discharge exacerbates cumulative effects within the Clean Air Zone; and
- b. localised effects of the proposed discharge and the location of sensitive receptors; and
- c. available mitigation and emission control options; and
- d. the duration of consent being sought and the practicability for the effects of the discharge to be reduced over time.

We find that the Applicant's air quality assessment indicates that they have the ability to control fugitive emissions and that the proposal is unlikely to exacerbate cumulative PM10 concentrations within the polluted Christchurch Airshed to any measurable extent. We note that the CARP sets a very low threshold of "no adverse effects" on human health and wellbeing or the mauri and life supporting capacity of ecosystems, plants or animals. We note the NESAQ provides a somewhat higher threshold, which provides a guaranteed level of protection for New Zealanders. Overall, in determining adverse effects on human health, we have relied on the ambient air quality standard in the NESAQ for PM10 and PM2.5 and the criterion in the CREL for RCS.

Overall, we concluded that the application is consistent with the relevant objectives and policies of the CARP.

Roydon consent: Selwyn District Council consents



The two parties that were part of the consent approval process were Selwyn District Council and Environment Canterbury. Each of these parties and their powers of governance has the ability to impose certain conditions on the consent approval. In terms of the Selwyn District Council (SDC) consents the following formed part of the decision to approve. Below are excerpts from the Commissioners granting of the Roydon consent application.

As is normal in a hearing of this scale, the conditions proposed by the Applicant and SDC witnesses evolved during the course of the hearing. This included conferencing of planning witnesses specifically on the conditions. We also gave directions as to form of conditions relating to the preparation and certification of Management Plans and minimising overlap and inconsistency between consents.

We were provided with a final copy of the Applicant's proposed conditions in their Reply submissions through Mr Bligh's Supplementary Statement dated 29 January 2020. We have used that condition set as the starting point for further changes as part of this Decision Report. We note that Mr Bligh's final set included new or amended conditions relating to the following:

- A requirement to construct of the walking

track and viewing platform within five years;

- No aggregate processing to occur until road improvements are complete;
- A reduction in operating hours on public holidays to 15 days per year;
- All processing with mobile crushers to be within the CPSA;
- No extraction within 200m of any existing dwelling;
- No amendment to the truck route restriction condition referring to a map showing the areas to be avoided; and
- Amendment to limit access to one vehicle access on Jones Road.

Mr Bligh also revised the management plan conditions and made further changes to remove duplication between consents. The final conditions we have imposed are set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

In terms of those final conditions there remained only one substantive area of disagreement between Mr Henderson and Mr Bligh. This related to the issue of rehabilitation extending beyond the term of consent. We have considered this earlier in this Decision Report and agreed with Mr Henderson in our finding that all activities contemplated by the consent should occur within the life of the consent.

The substantive changes to the SDC conditions

arising from this Decision Report include the following:

- A specified consent term of 35 years;
- A new condition listing the various figures and plans that attached to and form part of the consents;
- The recreational walking track and viewing platform to be completed within 12 months of completion of the perimeter bund and details addressed in the Landscape Management Plan;
- Amendments to Table 1 (hours of operation) to clarify that quarrying operations on Sundays are limited to between 7.00 am to 6.00 pm, for a maximum of 30 days per year;
- Restricting heavy vehicle traffic routing to and from the site to the use of Jones Road - Dawsons Road - SH 1.
- An additional condition prohibiting quarry traffic on Currags Road between 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm;
- Amending the route restriction condition to remove the exemption for Templeton and to increase the clarity of wording;
- An addition to the condition addressing the management of material being dropped from heavy vehicles onto Jones Road with a requirement that all loads are to be covered; and
- An additional Condition 85 requiring that the perimeter bunds be removed prior to consent expiry as part of the site's rehabilitation.

IMPORTANT UPDATE: Roydon Quarry appeal period extension

Fulton Hogan recognised the need for submitters to have an extension to the time allowed to lodge an appeal against the decision to grant consent for its' Roydon Quarry.

The Environment Court granted a local rural submitter's request for an extension through to Monday June 29th.

It recognised that the Independent Hearing Panel's decision to grant consent for the quarry occurred during the Covid-19 lockdown and this made it difficult for submitters to be able to meet to discuss the decision and any planned future steps. Fulton Hogan says it wants to continue to engage with the community and listen to residents' feedback.

Will you be having ice with that?

Fulton Hogan in Antarctica, a follow up to our Dec '19 article

“When you step off the plane after landing on the ice sheet, your first glimpse of Antarctica is a life changing, experience. From then on everything is mind-blowing.” Canterbury Quarries Development Manager Quinn McNab’s enthusiasm for the experience of setting up Fulton Hogan’s crushing operation on the ice is infectious.

“If someone had said to be me before joining Fulton Hogan that they would take you to Antarctica I would have said ‘you’re crazy’. When I tell my mates I’ve been down there they say ‘I thought you worked in a quarry’ – it’s amazing what you can get to do with Fulton Hogan.”

“It’s been an awesome opportunity for the guys – a career highlight for us.”

Quinn returned home in late February of this year, after setting up the base course crushing operation on the first stage of a major rebuild of McMurdo Station. Out of the initial team of 5 who travelled down, Portables Department Manager Blair Ferguson, McLeans Island Quarry Foreman Chris Williams, Portable Crushing Operator Steve Brosnahan were to stay on until April, but managed to get home just before lockdown started, while Blackheads’ Balclutha Quarry Manager Craig Upston returned home at the same time as Quinn in late February.

Seventy years old and in need of major upgrading for research into climate change, McMurdo Station is having a US\$600 million rebuild under the US-funded Antarctic Infrastructure Modernisation for Science programme. Multiple small buildings are being replaced with larger more heat efficient buildings.

Fulton Hogan’s labour supply contract followed a preliminary six-day visit in October by quarry managers Mike Earnshaw and Gavin Hartley to assess the crushing site and to understand logistical requirements. The crushing and other equipment was provided by the Americans based on Fulton Hogan’s advice. The main consideration, says Quinn, was exposure of our people to risk and injury – including how to get people home in the

event of an accident or emergency.

“There are so many unknowns down there, which we worked our way through.”

However he said operating the crusher – the same that’s used at Blackhead quarry - was “bread and butter to the team”. The rock being quarried is from a Mt Erubus basalt lava flow, adjacent to the station.

“When working in the quarry it was easy to think you were just on site at home, but then you’d look up and see the Ross Ice Shelf and mountain ranges behind and say ‘that’s right, I’m in Antarctica”” Quinn says.

Earlier in the summer there were 1,200 staff at the station including scientists and support staff- “bursting at the seams” –it is now scaled back to around 300 support staff tasked with keeping the station operational over the winter. Quiz nights, karaoke, and movies were key forms of entertainment “plus we had to try the American beers.”

Communications between the ice and New Zealand was good, which was particularly important for Blair who had young children at home wanting to speak to their dad. While Quinn was on the ice, temperatures reached a high of 7C - one of the hottest days of McMurdo’s summer – but days later and wind-chill took the mercury down to minus 27C.

One of the key activities was recording as much data as possible about the project, the issues and the challenges, to make it as easy as possible to prepare newbies down there, should there be future work.

Quinn says one of the best outcomes of the experience was the feedback from the Americans. “They were over the moon about our procedures, attitudes and culture of the guys. They were in awe of how we did things. For me this shows the classiness of our guys – it’s obviously not the easiest environment to work in, but all of the guys carried on with the same focus they would have at home, they all did Fulton Hogan very proud.

