

BEFORE THE WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of Submissions and Further Submissions
lodged by Fulton Hogan Limited to
Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change
1.

STATEMENT OF PRIMARY EVIDENCE OF PHILL HOUBEN

FOR

FULTON HOGAN LIMITED

Submitter ID 74048

15 FEBRUARY 2019

Part A: Overview and Context

**Part B: Overall Direction, Values and Uses, Science and Economics, Objectives,
Limits and Targets**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- A. Fulton Hogan Limited operates three significant quarries in the Waikato region that take and use water and then discharge water containing contaminants (primarily sediment) to land and water.
- B. A sustained supply of aggregate is essential for the continued development of the Waikato Region and to enable people and communities of the Waikato region to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.
- C. Fulton Hogan is generally supportive of the direction and pace of change set out in Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 (PC1) to give effect to the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers.
- D. Fulton Hogan lodged a number of submissions and further submissions on PC1 which have been given effect to in the recommendations of the officers in the S42A report. Fulton Hogan supports the changes recommended in the S42A report as they relate to its submissions and further submissions.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 My full name is Phillip Anthony Houben. I am the North Island Technical Support Engineer at Fulton Hogan Limited (Fulton Hogan). I have been employed in this position since August 2016.
- 1.2 Prior to this I was employed by Perry Resources (2008) Ltd as their Engineering Manager involved in a number of quarry operations in the upper North Island.
- 1.3 I hold the qualifications of a New Zealand Certificate in Civil Engineering and am a Registered Engineering Associate. I am also a member of Engineering New Zealand (formally IPENZ).
- 1.4 I have over 13 years' experience in quarry design, construction, earthworks, planning and consenting. I also have over 20 years' experience in general engineering ranging from design/construction in the water, waste water, waste and environmental disciplines.

2.0 SCOPE OF EVIDENCE

2.1 In my evidence I provide:

- A description of Fulton Hogan;
- A description of our assets and operations in the Waikato region; and
- A brief outline of the key issues for Fulton Hogan in topics addressed in the Block 1 hearings on Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1.

3.0 FULTON HOGAN LIMITED

3.1 Fulton Hogan is an industry leader in the infrastructure sector throughout New Zealand, Australia and the South Pacific.

3.2 Fulton Hogan owns and operates a network of quarries, laboratories, asphalt, emulsion and precast plants. With a vertically integrated business structure, we're able to supply aggregate and products directly to our projects, providing continuity to help ensure projects are on time and in budget. Our staff work across 13 regions, spanning the country from Northland to Southland, with a diverse range of projects and contracts including: maintenance, roads and bridges, airports and ports, rail, water and wastewater, asset management and land development.

3.3 Fulton Hogan is a family-owned company with 3,274 shareholders, of which 30 per cent are staff. Founded in 1933 we have more than 85 years' experience and pride ourselves on being a family company, where we care about our people and communities and put safety first.

3.4 Fulton Hogan currently employs 5,151 staff across New Zealand. Our people are the most important part of our business and we live and work by our REAL values – respect, energy and effort, attitude and leadership.

4.0 FULTON HOGAN'S OPERATIONS IN THE WAIKATO REGION

4.1 The Waikato District alone has one of the largest roading networks of any district council within New Zealand. It provides maintenance and improvement for over 1,836kms of sealed roads, 600kms of un-sealed roads and 241kms of footpath,

with approximately 38 cents of every dollar spent from general rates being used for roading¹.

- 4.2 The Waikato region is currently one of the fastest growing areas outside of Auckland with large scale developments in Pokeno, Te Kauwhata and Hamilton requiring significant volumes of aggregate to support roading and concrete supplies for new subdivisions and housing.
- 4.3 Over the last 2 years Fulton Hogan Quarries have supplied over 3 million tonnes of aggregate and sand into the Waikato region with a number of other rock and sand quarries also supporting current infrastructure demands.
- 4.4 Fulton Hogan has 223 staff in the Waikato region excluding the large infrastructure projects like the Huntly Bypass. Its Waikato operations covers a range of industries including construction, maintenance, asphalt plant, water and wastewater, laboratory and quarries.
- 4.5 The Quarry Division currently has 45 staff over 3 key sites Waingaro, Tauhei and Tuakau. Each of these quarries require the use of natural and physical resources to operate. For each quarry Fulton Hogan holds resource consents to use land for quarrying purposes, take water, divert groundwater or dewater areas of the quarry, discharge contaminants to air and discharge stormwater and contaminants to land or water. In the following section of my evidence, I provide further details of each quarry and identify the specific discharges from the site that will be affected by PC1.
- 4.6 Waingaro Greywacke Quarry, located on Waingaro Road near Ngaruawahia, was established in 1947. The quarry was owned by Waikato Quarries Ltd which is currently owned by Fulton Hogan Ltd, and produces between 400,000 and 800,000 tonnes of aggregates per year.
- 4.7 The site has 10 resource consents between Waikato District Council and Waikato Regional Council and has one consent for a discharge to water. This consent was granted in November 2008 for 35 years authorising the discharge of treated stormwater to a tributary of the Firewood Creek.
- 4.8 Tauhei Greywacke Quarry has been in operation since 1917 and has gradually been expanding since then. The Tauhei Quarry is located at the transition between

¹ Waikato District Council Annual Report, 2018

the flat alluvial plains of the Waikato Basin and steeply rolling hill country associated with Pukemokemoke Reserve to the east. The site currently produces around 650,000 tonnes of aggregate per year, however has produced over 1 million tonnes a year over the previous 2 years to meet demand of the Waikato bypass projects.

- 4.9 The site has 10 resource consents between Waikato District Council and Waikato Regional Council and has two consents for discharges to water or land. These consents allow the point source discharge of treated stormwater to the Mangatea Stream which expires in December 2022 and the diversion and discharge of stormwater to ground which expires in December 2022.
- 4.10 Tuakau Sand Quarry, is a 75-hectare operation, approximately 7 km south-west of Tuakau township. The site commenced operation in 2012 and has consents that expire in 2038. This site can produce and sell up to 300,000m³ of aggregate per year.
- 4.11 The site has 6 resource consents between Waikato District Council and Waikato Regional Council including a discharge of process water to land and diversion of floodwaters by stop banking.

5.0 ISSUES FOR FULTON HOGAN LIMITED

- 5.1 A sustained supply of aggregate is essential for the continued development of the Waikato region and to enable people and communities of the Waikato region to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.
- 5.2 It is necessary to also to have objectives and policies in relevant planning documents which facilitate aggregate extraction to enable those resources which exist, to be extracted and distributed to the areas in which they are required.
- 5.3 Infrastructure is essential to New Zealand's ongoing prosperity. Better roads, rail, airports, commercial and residential buildings, factories and farms, sewerage and water schemes, are all crucial to improving our economic performance and community development. Within the Waikato region there is an inadequate supply of easily obtainable quality roading aggregates
- 5.4 Fulton Hogan is generally supportive of the direction and pace of change set out in Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 to meet the Vision and Strategy for

the Waikato and Waipa Rivers. Achieving the outcomes sought will be challenging but Fulton Hogan considers that the 10-year and 80-year timeframe proposed provide sufficient time for us to adapt and find solutions to contribute to achieving the objectives of the plan.

5.5 In our submission, we suggested some changes to the provisions of the Plan Change to improve clarity and workability. In relation to the topics covered by the Block 1 hearings our key concerns were to ensure the provisions of PC1:

- give effect to, and are consistent with, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato and Waipa Rivers ('Vision and Strategy') and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management ('NPSFM').
- allow people and communities in the Waikato region to continue to provide for their economic and social wellbeing, while giving effect to the Vision and Strategy; and
- are clear, fair and workable for resource users.

5.6 Many of the issues of concern to Fulton Hogan have been addressed in recommendations in the S42A reports prepared by the officers and the proposed amendments made to the Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1.

5.7 In her evidence, Ms Dines sets out a planning analysis of Fulton Hogan's submissions and further submissions on Plan Change 1 and the s42A report.

Phill Houben

Fulton Hogan Limited

15 February 2019