

Wongan Hills – Variation to the consent for Kaituna Valley – FAQ Sheet

1. What is the application for?

This application is to vary an existing consent for an intensive beef farm. This application seeks to reduce the built form from two, 12,000m² barns with a height of 15m to four barns with a total footprint of 16,640m² and a maximum height of 9m. These will be able to accommodate up to 2000 cattle at a time.

2. Why was the application not notified?

The original application was not notified as the Council and the decision maker, in this case an independent commissioner, found that the adverse effects of the activity on the environment and nearby persons were less than minor and therefore notification to any nearby persons or the wider public was not required.

The variation application is currently being processed and no notification decision has yet been made.

3. Why did the Council allow the activity?

Intensive farming is anticipated in this location by the district plan and the Council and the independent commissioner found that the adverse effects were acceptable and that the proposal accorded with the relevant objectives and policies.

4. Can I object to the resource consent decision?

There is no way to object to a non-notified resource consent decision. The only route of challenge would be to the High Court on a point of law.

5. Why wasn't climate change considered?

The RMA requires that considerations for restricted discretionary activities are limited to the matters over which discretion is restricted. In this case these restricted discretions do not include greenhouse gas emissions.

6. Why wasn't animal welfare considered?

The RMA requires that considerations for restricted discretionary activities are limited to the matters over which discretion is restricted. In this case these restricted discretions do not include animal welfare. Additionally animal welfare is covered by the Ministry of Primary Industries, more information can be found [here](#).

7. Was a visual assessment undertaken?

The original application was supported by a Landscape Assessment by Rough and Milne Landscape Architects Ltd, in line with Draft Aotearoa New Zealand Landscape Assessment Guidelines. This was reviewed on behalf of the Council by a registered landscape architect at WSP.

An updated assessment has been provided to support this variation application from Rough and Milne, and the same landscape architect from WSP has been engaged to peer review this on behalf of the council.

8. Will the activity pollute any nearby streams?

Water quality and discharges to streams are covered by Environment Canterbury. More information on the resource consent lodged with them can be found [here](#).