

Duncan White for Paterson Pitts Wanaka – Hearing Stream 15 – Earthworks

1. The Paterson Pitts Group submission on the Earthworks chapter primarily focused on concerns that the notified wording of the earthworks standards used the absolute 'avoid' in relation to sediment erosion and dust and deposition of material on roads. Such terminology is overly onerous and not practical to comply with at all times. This has been recognised in the revised wording of the standards in the S42A report and rebuttal evidence and most of the submission points have resulted in changes to proposed standards.
2. As a result of these changes we now support amended wording of Rules 25.5.12 - 25.5.14 and the restricted discretionary activity status where there are non-compliances.
3. Also support proposed wording changes to Rule 25.5.19 to include an exemption for retained earthworks up to 0.5m but still retain some concerns about the interpretation of this rule. Mr Botting will comment specifically on these issues. We now also support changes to Rule 25.5.21 in relation to groundwater.
4. Still maintain a preference for more comprehensive and specific non-notification provisions than those in the recommended chapter.
5. It was interesting that there were no submissions from earthmoving contractors or engineering consultants apart from Paterson Pitts and therefore thought it might be beneficial to the commissioners to question somebody with practical experience in the design, consenting and administration of earthmoving jobs and so have Mike Botting with me. Mr Botting and I are happy to answer any questions you might have on the earthworks rules.