

**IN THE MATTER OF** the Resource Management Act 1991  
**AND**  
**IN THE MATTER OF** resource consent applications by  
McPherson Resources Limited to the  
Waikato Regional and District  
Councils for an existing quarry at 47  
McPherson Road, Mangatawhiri.

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**SECTIONS 41C RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991  
DIRECTIONS**

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1. Pursuant to section 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), Waikato District and Regional Councils (“the Councils”) have appointed David Hill (Chair), Nigel Mark-Brown and Melissa King-Howell, Independent Hearing Commissioners, to hear and decide the applications by McPherson Resources Limited.
2. The hearing commenced on Monday, 30 November 2020 at Tuakau, and was adjourned for further information on Tuesday 1 December 2020.
3. Part of the further information requested related to groundwater. The applicant and the Councils were asked to confer and propose a scope of work on that matter.
4. By email dated 1 December 2020, the following scope of work was proposed by the applicant:

*The scope for further groundwater assessment consists of a desk top assessment expanding on the letter previously provided by WGA, covering the following items:*

1. *An assessment of groundwater derived base flows in the streams to the west and east of the proposed quarry.*
2. *An assessment of potential reductions in stream base flows due to the proposed quarry development, with the reductions to be evaluated on a stagewise basis linked to the staged development of the quarry.*
3. *An assessment of the effects of the quarry on spring flows in the area. However, I am not sure exactly which springs are being referred to, in addition to the Mt William Spring, which was the subject of WGA’s previous letter. Guidance on this aspect of the assessment will be required.*

*As these assessments will be desktop only, without the support of site-specific flow monitoring data, the analyses will necessarily be undertaken at a high level. However, the outcomes should provide a reasonable indication of the scale of effects on water flows that may be expected.*

5. Commissioners have considered the above scope of work and have prepared the following scope of work which replaces and supersedes the above proposed scope.
6. **Further information required for assessment effects on aquatic ecology arising from any changes in base flows in adjoining and downstream watercourses caused by the separate stages of proposed quarry activities**

This will need to be assessed for the following watercourse extents refer to marked up Figure 1 from the WGA groundwater report of 19 November 2020 attached below):

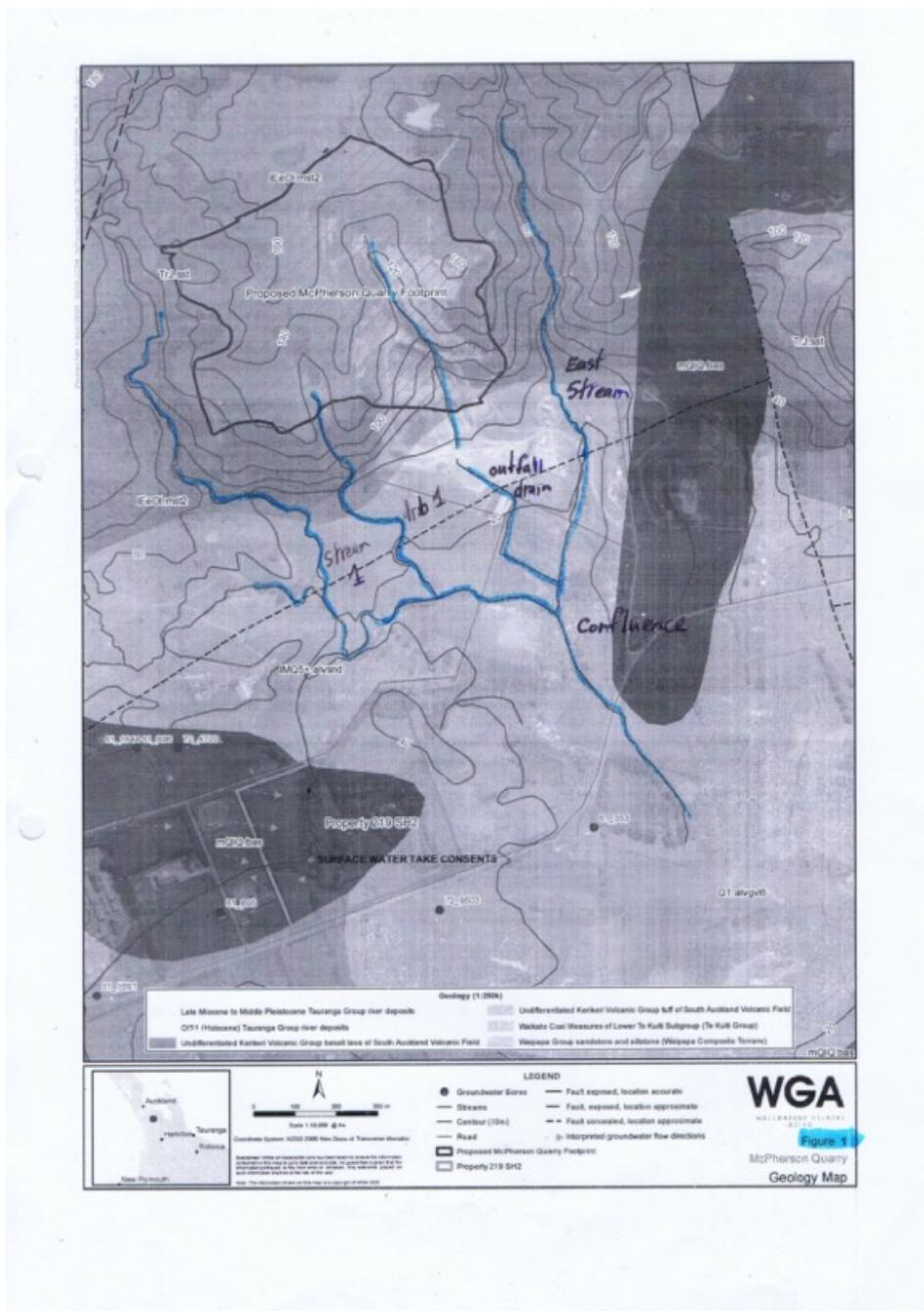
- (a) Stream 1 from adjacent to the proposed Stage 3 down to the Confluence;
- (b) Tributary 1 downstream of proposed quarry;
- (c) East stream from adjacent to the eastern extent of the proposed quarry down to the Confluence;

(d) At and downstream of the Confluence.

It is considered that the assessment for locations (a) to (d) will require the following work:

- Assessment of existing baseflow (flow quantum);
- Assessment of changes to baseflow quantum arising from the three separate proposed quarry stages – this will include nominated assumptions on the quarry floor level for each stage;
- Assessment of the effect of the change to baseflow quantum on stream ecology for each quarry stage, including effects on fish species present or likely to be present and whether this is acceptable under relevant statutory and other considerations.

Note that it is assumed that the outfall drain has and will continue to have intermittent flows and does not need assessment for ecological effects - the applicant is requested to confirm whether this is correct.



7. **Further information required for assessment effects on the existing spring flow at 219 State Highway 2**

It is requested that Waikato Regional Council undertakes a peer review of the WGA report titled "Effects of McPherson Quarry Expansion on Groundwater", dated 19 November 2020 – specifically the discussion of the groundwater system flowing to the springs and the findings on effects of the proposed quarry expansion (all three stages with assumed quarry floor levels) on the spring flows.

8. Commissioners direct that the above information be provided no later than 4pm Friday 18 December 2020 – and then be provided electronically to all parties for their information.
9. Once received, Commissioners will consider the extent to which that information constitutes new evidence and, therefore, requires that to be made available for further submission by parties.
10. Any correspondence relating to this Direction is to be sent through Mr Steve Rice at [steve@riceres.co.nz](mailto:steve@riceres.co.nz).



David Hill  
Chair, Hearings Panel  
4 December 2020