20th August 2026

Environment Southland
Attn: Stephen West
By email: stephen.west@es.govt.nz

Datagrid NZ Partnership Ltd – Response to Further Information Request

Council Reference: APP-20262269

Thank you for your email dated 17th July 2026 requesting further information in relation to remove part of a wetland and carry out excavations within 100 metres of a wetland. We respond as follows:

1. **Clarification whether the wetland where the channel widening is to occur was assessed by a suitably qualified person to determine the values of the wetland that will be affected by the excavations**

   Yes, the area of wetland to be disturbed was assessed by PDP as part of the original delineation assessment. See attached memo from PDP confirming this and providing comment specific to the area subject to this application.

2.

   a) **Confirmation that a suitably qualified has considered the loss of the wetland area and the proposed compensation and offsetting that will occur, including the timeframe, and determined that it will meet the requirements of the effects management hierarchy under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM). Please also note that Appendices 6 and 7 of the NPSFM list principles that apply to offsetting and compensation.**

      Correct, both PDP and Bonisch have assessed this.

   b) **Clarification of monitoring or methods to confirm that the loss of wetland is remedied, offset or compensated in accordance with Section 3.22 of the NPSFM**

      We propose that the following conditions of consent be included to address this:

      i. The consent holder must plant and maintain the riparian margins of the constructed swale and Helena Road drainage ditch with indigenous species typical of the Taylor Road Wetland. The planting must be completed within three months of the earthworks being completed.

      ii. A planting plan must be prepared prior to earthworks commencing. This plan must detail areas for planting and include maintenance and monitoring requirements.

3. **Clarification that the datacentre and associated activities for this application, fit with the definition of 'specified infrastructure'.**

Please see attached legal opinion from Simpson Grierson confirming the specified infrastructure status of the datacentre. This opinion has been accepted by Environment Southlands legal team.

a) **Confirmation whether or not the works will deepen the drainage canal in addition to widening the channel.**

The works will widen the existing drainage channel, but no deepening of the existing drainage channel will be undertaken, as it is currently at a very minimal longitudinal grade.

b) **Clarification why you do not expect the works to result in increased drainage from the nearby regionally significant wetland, the Taylor Road wetland. Please state what measures, if any, will be taken to prevent such an increase, and what monitoring, if any, is proposed to check that the water levels in the adjoining wetland are unaffected.**

The discharge to the stormwater channel from the Datagrid site will only occur during 10% and 1%AEP events when the stormwater discharge ponds overtops the outlet. During normal rainfall events stormwater from the site will continue to discharge to the wetland via the infiltration trench. The existing culvert beneath Taylor Road governs the water levels in the wetland and the proposed culvert will not lower the invert level of the outlet of the existing wetland and therefore is not expected to increase regular flow from the wetland into the drainage channel.

5. **A summary of the results of consultation, if any, particularly with Te Ao Mārama Inc. and the Department of Conservation.**

Please see attached email chain with Te Ao Marama Inc.

Please see attached initial acknowledgement of receipt of application information from DoC. Please note that I do not consider DoC to be an affected party in relation to this application given the less than minor effects on the wetland and the positive effects arising.

6. **Please provide a statement about whether or not the applicant has been the subject of any abatement notices, enforcement orders, infringement notices, and convictions under the Resource Management Act 1991 and, if so, please provide a summary of the matter.**

No, the applicant has not been the subject of any abatement notices, enforcement orders, infringement notices, and convictions under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Yours faithfully

Christine McMillan
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