## IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT AT CHRISTCHURCH

**IN THE MATTER** of the Resource Management Act 1991

(the Act)

AND

**IN THE MATTER** of appeals pursuant to clause 14 of the

First Schedule to the Act

BETWEEN Southland Fish and Game Council

(ENV-2018-CHC-000037)

**Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society** 

of New Zealand Inc

(ENV-2018-CHC-000050)

**Appellants** 

A N D Southland Regional Council

Respondent

MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FOR BALLANCE AGRI-NUTRIENTS LIMITED SEEKING LEAVE TO BE EXCUSED FROM ATTENDANCE DURING PORTIONS OF THE TOPIC A HEARING



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## MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

- This Memorandum of Counsel is filed on behalf of Ballance Agri-Nutrients
  Limited, seeking leave for Counsel to be excused from attending parts of the
  Topic A hearing on appeals against decisions on the proposed Southland Water
  and Land Plan.
- 2. Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited is a party to the following appeals in respect of provisions being heard as part of the Topic A hearing:<sup>1</sup>
  - (a) Southland Fish and Game Council v Southland Regional Council (ENV-2018-CHC000037).
  - (b) Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Incorporatedv Southland Regional Council (ENV-2018-CHC-000050).
- 3. Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited is not a party to the appeals from:
  - (a) Ngā Rūnanga;
  - (b) Meridian Energy Limited;
  - (c) Aratiatia Livestock Limited; and
  - (d) Alliance Group Limited.
- 4. The cases for these appeals, and section 274 parties to these appeals, are scheduled to proceed in the latter part of the Topic A hearing. The latest projection has Ngā Rūnanga commencing on Thursday 13 June 2019.
- Counsel for Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited has sought to cross-examine witnesses from Southland Regional Council, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, Southland Fish and Game Council, and Director-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is also a party to the appeal by Federated Farmers of New Zealand (ENV-2018-CHC-000040) but only in respect of Policy 39 which is not part of the Topic A hearing.

General of Conservation. Counsel does not seek to cross examine any witnesses appearing for those parties identified at paragraph 3 above, Waiau Rivercare Group, DairyNZ Limited or Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited.

- 6. Leave is sought for Counsel for Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited to be excused from the hearing after the evidence of Linda Kirk for the Director-General of Conservation, on the basis that:
  - (a) It does not have a direct interest in the appeals from:
    - (i) Ngā Rūnanga;
    - (ii) Meridian Energy Limited;
    - (iii) Aratiatia Livestock Limited; and
    - (iv) Alliance Group Limited;
  - (b) It has not sought to cross examine witnesses for those parties, or Waiau Rivercare Group, DairyNZ Limited or Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited.

**DATED** at Tauranga this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019

Vanessa Jane Hamm

Counsel for Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited