

RESPONSES OF BRYONY MILLER TO HEARING
COMMISSIONERS QUESTIONS

1. The following comments and clarifications are provided in response to the Commissioners questions in Minute 2.
2. *"A seagrass study of Z. muelleri in temperate Kaipara Harbour³ (Bulmer et al., 2016 is also a new reference) **refers to Chartrand et al., 2016**, findings from which conclusions and inferences were drawn regarding Zostera muelleri bed senescent periods during the winter months."* [our emphasis]

Clarification sought: The Bulmer *et al.* 2016 paper appears to have been published before the Chartrand *et al.*, 2016 paper and therefore does not refer to that paper as suggested by Ms Miller. We invite Ms Miller to reconsider this sentence and, if necessary, provide amendments to it in the Applicant's Right of Reply.

3. Thank you for the opportunity to clarify this. The Chartrand *et al.* 2016 reference should read Chartrand *et al.* 2012 [edit underlined]. The full reference for the report referred to in Bulmer *et al.* 2016 paper is: Chartrand, K. M.; Ralph, P.J.; Petrou, K.; Rasheed, M. A. 2012. Development of a light-based Seagrass management approach for the Gladstone Western Basin Dredging Program. DAFF Publication. Cairns, QLD: Fisheries Queensland. Please note; this is a new reference.
4. The second matter of clarification relates to her sentence:
*"This senescent period, for Z. muelleri ssp. novazelandica is considered to be over the winter months when shorter days and cooler water temperatures naturally limit growth (Turner & Schwarz, 2006), **and importantly, outside of the proposed dredging timeframe.**"* [our emphasis]

It is our understanding that the proposed dredging of soft sediments will be undertaken between 1 April and 30 September, which is during the senescent period. We would appreciate confirmation in the Applicant's Right of Reply if this above statement should be corrected.

5. The Commissioners understanding that the proposed dredging of soft sediments will be undertaken between 1 April and 30 September, which is during the seagrass senescent period, is correct. The above statement can be corrected to read *"This senescent period, for Z. muelleri ssp. novazelandica is considered to be over the winter months when shorter days and cooler water temperatures naturally limit growth (Turner & Schwarz, 2006), and importantly, the proposed dredging is during this senescent period."* [edits underlined].

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Bryony Miller