

Technical Memorandum – Fast-track Application

WIAL Southern Seawall Renewal Project

Climate Change Adaptation

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Introduction

This memo responds to a request for comment from the expert panel assessing the Wellington International Airport Limited (WIAL)'s substantive application to replace and upgrade its southern seawall, and associated activities, under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act).

This memo provides comments on the effects of the project on relating to the effects associated with sea level rise and climate change hazards, as well as emissions production from the construction process.

The land directly to the east of the proposed WIAL seawall application is already experiencing significant coastal erosion, which we expect would become worse over time with climate change. WCC is seeking to ensure that the design, construction and maintenance of the seawall will not negatively impact coastal erosion to neighbouring public areas, and where possible that the project would support opportunities to prevent further coastal erosion to help build local resilience to natural hazards.

Pre-lodgement feedback on the draft application

We have previously provided feedback on:

- The methodology of the BECA Reports (*Option Assessment and Design of Summary Report* dated 22 October 2025 and the *Assessment of Effects on Coastal Processes Report* date 22 July 2025) are generally accepted.
- While there is a preference for an extended the scope (boundary of the assessment to adjacent land) and increase the modelling timeframes for the design life of the seawall to align to the 2024 MfE Coastal Hazards and Climate

Change Guidance (from 80 years to 100 years), the responses provided by WIAL have addressed these matters.

Review of application (and regulatory assessment)

At pre-lodgement stage the Council expressed a preference for an extended the scope of the project to include land adjacent to the project area, and an increase the modelling timeframes for the design life of the seawall to align with coastal hazard and climate change guidance. The Council accepts the methodology used in the BECA reports and the clarifications provided by WIAL at pre-lodgement stage in respect of the scope of the project and modelling timeframes. The Council notes that the BECA report concludes that the effects of the project on the coastal processes is likely to be minor. The Council has no further recommendations in respect of these matters.

Post-lodgement work with the applicant

As mentioned above, most of the recommendations have been considered previously.

Outstanding matters

There are no outstanding comments from the Climate Change and Adaptation team at this time.

Proposed conditions

NA

Other matters

NA