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12 February 2025

James Palmer  
Fast-track Approvals Team  
Ministry for the Environment  
8 Willis Street  
Wellington  
6011

Sent by email: [james.palmer@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:james.palmer@mfe.govt.nz)

Dear James

## **NOTIFICATION OF FAST-TRACK APPROVALS APPLICATION FOR THE STELLA PASSAGE DEVELOPMENT**

We are writing to inform the Ministry for the Environment that Port of Tauranga Limited (**POTL**) is applying under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (**Act**) for the necessary consents and approvals to undertake the Stella Passage Development, which is a project that is listed in Schedule 2 of the Act (**Development**). As the relevant administering agency for the Resource Management Act 1991, POTL is required to consult with the Ministry for the Environment under section 29(1) of the Act prior to lodgement of its application.

POTL is proposing to lodge its application at the end of the first quarter, 2025.

The Development comprises reclamation of land, including the associated capital dredging and extension of the existing wharves at Sulphur Point and Mount Maunganui. Minor structures at Butters Landing and mooring and breasting dolphins will also be constructed. A map of the location of the Development is attached to this letter for your reference.



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As part of its application, POTL will also seek a wildlife approval under the Act to catch and relocate live blue penguins from the Mount Maunganui rock wall to an area POTL has designated for penguin habitat. POTL's Avian Management Plan includes measures that mean that physical removal of blue penguins is unlikely to be required, but POTL is applying for this approval so that it has been obtained in the unlikely event that relocation of any penguins is required. POTL will write to the Department of Conservation as the administering agency for the Wildlife Act 1953 to consult with them in relation to the wildlife approval part of the application.

If you require further information, have any questions, or wish to engage with POTL on the application before lodgment, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



**Dan Kneebone**

General Manager – Property and Infrastructure



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