



Report 05.512
Date 15 September 2005
File ENV/01/11/01
WGN/06/0001/1
Committee Extraordinary Environment Committee
Author Sonia Ellis

Appointment of Commissioners

1. Purpose

To recommend to the Committee the appointment of Commissioners.

2. Background

Due to the sensitivity of the Meridian West Wind Project it was decided that Greater Wellington should remain impartial by appointing independent commissioners to sit on the joint hearing panel with Wellington City Council which is due to commence on Monday 26 September 2005.

3. Greater Wellington Commissioners

I recommend that the Committee appoint Jim Lynch and David McMahon to sit on the hearing panel on behalf of Greater Wellington Regional Council. These two individuals have been selected for their expertise and experience in resource management issues.

Jim Lynch has been a resource management lawyer for almost 30 years and now practices as a specialist resource management and local government barrister. Jim was appointed by local authorities to be Chairman of the Commissioners who decided a number of cases including the Wellington Inner City By-pass and the Aotea Block, Porirua City, Private Plan Changes 2-5.

David McMahon is a resource management consultant and Director of Resource Management Group Ltd with qualifications in Geology and Regional and Resource Planning. David's expertise is primarily in statutory planning matters and he has developed this expertise as a Hearing Commissioner working in both Plan and consent applications.

Jim Lynch and David McMahon have both completed the MFE's Good Decision Making course.

4. Wellington City Council

The Wellington City Council is the lead agency and they have elected to have their Councillors sit on the hearing panel. Representing Wellington City Council will be Robert Armstrong, who will be the Chair, and Alick Shaw.

5. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. receive the report; and*
- 2. approve the appointment of the joint hearing panel.*

Report prepared by:

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