**KEN HARRIS – CORPORATE**

Good morning

Thank you for consideration of our consent applications it is appreciated.

We are conscious of how much time an effort all parties here today have taken to consider these consents.

I will not be reading aloud my statement of evidence today as this is on the record.

I would however like to introduce myself and provide some additional background information.

My close family's heritage includes Ngati Pourou, and Nga Tahu as well as Danish and English settlers with Sarah Barrow being the first pakeha Woman ashore in Petone in 1840 and David Harris arriving as a whaler and settling in Kaikoura in 1835. Since 1848 my family have lived in in the catchment of the Whakatiki River and Pauatahanui stream. Pauatahanui was then a rural area and is an areas characterised by a mix of rural residential and commercial use.

School was not interesting to me and my working life started in the shearing sheds of Pauatahanui and later on Wellington Port’s wharves. As an adult I attained various academic qualifications locally and overseas including several master level qualifications.

My career progressed over time and has included leading a high profile shipping company, serving as MD of several ports, and heading the NZ Quarantine Service.

I was a lead in negotiating the first Taiwan/NZ free trade agreement and led a key ministerial committee related to the Rugby World Cup. I have served as a director with companies associated with Fonterra, Ports of Auckland and several other companies.

Through a holding company I own 50% of and have the controlling shareholding in ContainerCo.

Formed in 2013 ContainerCo’s precursor companies Owens Container Services and NZL Group are Iconic Tauranga companies. ContainerCo continues to own and operates essential businesses supporting NZ’s international trade. We are enormously proud of this longstanding and ongoing contribution to the region and Aotearoa through generations of hard working work whanau.

The areas we are relied on by shippers and in particular exporters is to develop technology and provide services that support the flow and use of empty containers. To this end ContainerCo’ operates 10 major specialist sites and a number of secondary support facilities.

Our teams total a little less than 300 staff ContainerCo’s revenues this year will be around $95m and our EBIT (earnings before tax) this year is expected to be more than $15m. We re-invest almost all available profits in people, and facilities an approach that has seen us double in size over the last 5 years.

Our investment in Te-Puna development is to support the regions shippers and in particular exporters but other positive benefits are created. The development creates employment, ecological and amenity value with the creation of wetlands, and pedestrian walkways.

As well the development significantly upgrades the Te-Puna Road / Te-Puna Station Road intersection which currently regarded as unsafe.

 I would however like to acknowledge the concerns of Mana Whenua and acknowledge that my understanding of these concerns is through a Pakeha lens. My understanding of the Pirirakau concerns in summary is:

* Effects on a wider and interconnected cultural landscape.
* The protection of the Hakao Stream
* Protection of Koiwi
* Protection of wahi tapu and wahi Taonga areas
* Opposition to works on site and the addition of fill
* Supporting and restoring areas of mahinga kai

With the support of planners, and subject matter specialists we have sought to meaningfully respond to these concerns and many of these matters are considered in the expert evidence filed on our behalf and the concerns have shaped the cultural mitigation package offered to Pirirākau.

Again thank you for your consideration of our consent applications it is appreciated.

Ken