

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

AND

IN THE MATTER of resource consent applications by **Gisborne District Council – Community Lifelines** for construction and upgrading of approximately 4.2 kilometres of stopbanks, associated earthworks, road raising, drainage and stormwater infrastructure, works within and adjacent to the Waipaoa River, temporary water take and discharge activities during construction, vegetation clearance, temporary access works, service relocations, and landscape planting and site reinstatement.

SECTION 41 RMA - DIRECTION #3

INDEPENDENT HEARING PANEL

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of Direction #3 is to respond to a request for an extension to the time period for the submission of submitter evidence.

BACKGROUND

2. A request was received on 18 September 2026 from legal counsel acting for submitter Chris Coates for a one-day extension to the time period for submission of expert evidence. The current timetable requires submitter evidence to be filed by no later than 4pm on Monday 21 September.

DIRECTIONS

3. Pursuant to sections 37 and 37A of the RMA, the Panel may extend a time period having considered:
 - the interests of persons who may be directly affected by the extension;
 - the interests of the community in achieving an adequate assessment of the effects of the proposal; and
 - the duty under s21 of the Act to avoid unreasonable delay.

4. The Panel directs that the request to extend the time period for filing of the submitter's expert evidence is accepted. In the interests of fairness this extension shall apply to all submitters.
5. In reaching this decision, the Panel notes that extension of the time period for filing of submitters expert evidence will not materially prejudice any party, will assist in ensuring a comprehensive consideration of relevant issues, and will not result in unreasonable delay to the hearing process.
6. Any enquiries regarding this Direction or related matters should be directed to the Council at NotifiedRC@gdc.govt.nz.



Cam Twigley (Chair)
Independent Hearing Panel

Date: 18 September 2026