

26/10/2022

To whom it may concern,

GHL wishes to write in support of the Twin Berth Stage 2 application. Our support is based on the economic benefits and the diversification of products that will be exported from the port.

Gisborne Holdings Limited (GHL) is a Council Controlled Trading Organisation (CCTO), wholly owned by Gisborne District Council (GDC). Our long-term intention is to run Council's commercial investments and significantly increase the return to GDC.

COVID-19 has highlighted the importance of being resilient and with so many businesses and families reliant on the operation of the port, it is critical they diversify their export products. If the port can upgrade their infrastructure, they will future proof the wellbeing of Gisborne's economy.

The port needs to have less reliance on logs and have the ability to export other wood products and fresh produce. Over recent years, many produce growers in Gisborne have invested in their orchards and equipment so the Twin Berth project will only capitalise on this.

Growers will be able to save a huge amount of money by not having to cart their produce to Napier or Tauranga ports. This will keep the money in the pocket of the grower so they can continue investing in their own businesses and ultimately the economy of Gisborne.

Furthermore, this will reduce the number of heavy vehicles heading out of town on vulnerable roads and reduce environmental impacts with the use of container shipping.

The port is a vital asset for our region, and the Twin Berth project is an investment into the future. Eastland Port needs to secure a consent to future proof our region and let it reach its full potential.

We look forward to hearing the outcome of Eastland Port's Twin Berth application.



John Rae  
Chair – Gisborne Holdings Limited