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Kia ora Cristal,

Re Eastland Port Ltd: Resource Consent Application for Gisborne Twin Berth Stage Two Project

Eastland Port Limited (EPL) will be lodging a bundled resource consent application with the Gisborne District Council for the second and final stage of the Twin Berth project in July.

EPL is proposing the Twin Berth project to allow two handymax (185-200m) sized ships to be berthed and loaded at the same time here in Tūranganui-a-Kiwa, future proofing the port for Tairāwhiti’s forecast forestry harvests, and opening up the possibilities of shipping containers and other trade to and from the region.

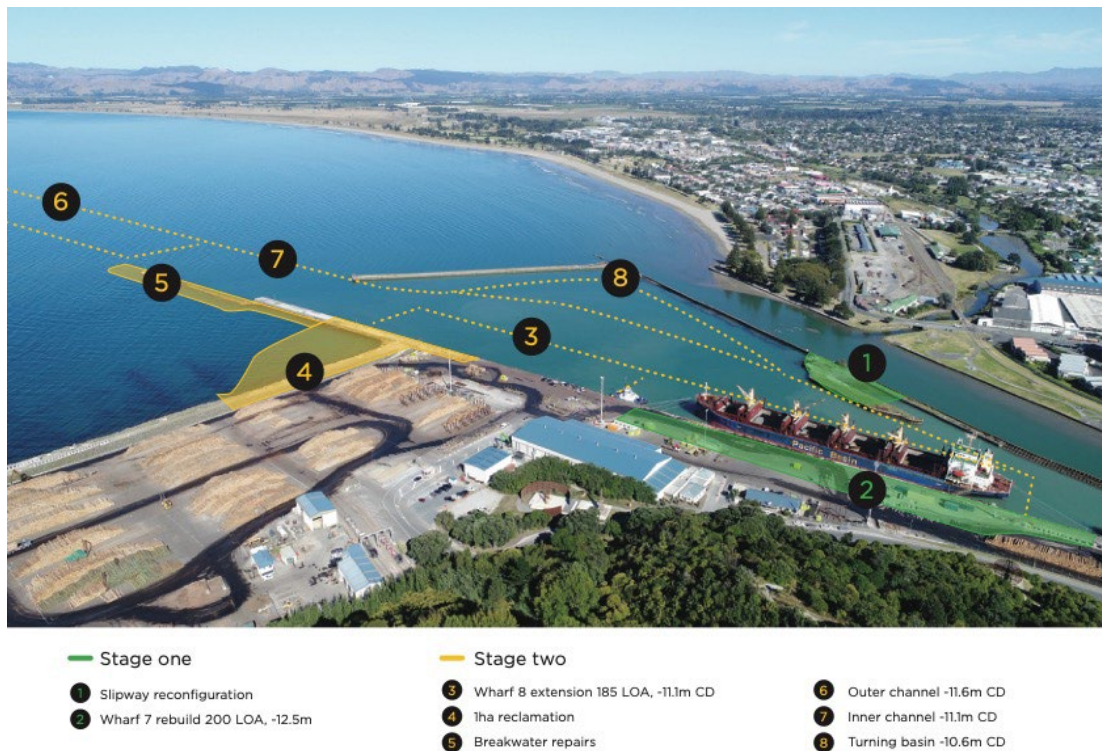


Figure 1. Eastland Port Twin Berth project plans

The project is an important development that supports economic development in the whole region. When completed the Twin Berth project will support Tairāwhiti's long term economic growth, provide greater economic opportunities for the region, with a projected additional 86 FTE jobs for locals. The project will also better protect navigation and safety at the Port, and improve stormwater treatment.

The project has been split into two stages (figure 1). The first stage, involving the redevelopment of Wharves 6 & 7 and the former slipway, has already been consented with GDC and work has commenced. Stage two which is the subject of the current proposal will involve:

- the extension of the existing Wharf 8 and adjacent reclamation to provide access to the expanded berth,
- upgrading of the existing breakwater,
- capital and maintenance dredging to deepen the turning basin and channels to accommodate larger vessel loads than can currently be achieved and disposal of this material in the Offshore Disposal Ground identified in the Tairāwhiti Resource Management Plan,
- upgrading the stormwater collection and treatment facilities across the Southern Logyard, and
- replacing the existing port coastal occupation permit that expires in 2026.

Further details about the project are available at <https://www.eastland.nz/eastland-port/twin-berth-project/>

Assessment of environmental effects

A full Assessment of Effects on the Environment (AEE) is currently being finalised. The AEE describes in full detail the elements of the Twin Berths project, the resource consents being sought, and assesses of the effects of the project. The AEE will be lodged with Gisborne District Council with several technical reports to support this including:

- an engineering concept design of the Wharf 8 extension, reclamation, revetment and refurbishment of the Outer Breakwater,
- an engineering assessment of capital and maintenance dredging and disposal, including and volumes and areas proposed to be dredged,
- a stormwater management engineering report on the proposed capture of the stormwater from the reclamation and upgrade of the current Southern Log Yard treatment system to our clarifier system used elsewhere on port,
- an assessment of the operational noise effects and construction noise and vibration effects,
- a traffic assessment of effects on the local road network,
- an assessment of effects on the waves and sediment transport from the revetment/reclamation and breakwater upgrades,
- an assessment of effects on the waves and sediment transport from the dredging and disposal of capital and maintenance dredging material,
- a surf break assessment of effects on surf breaks within Tūranganui-a-Kiwa/Poverty Bay,
- an assessment of the ecological effects from construction and operation,
- a detailed site investigation of soil ground material that may be disturbed as part of reclamation works,
- an archaeological and heritage assessment of the effects on historic heritage,
- an assessment of economic effects, and
- an assessment of effects on the landscape and natural character and values of the coastal environment.



These technical reports will also be accompanied in the AEE with a

- Cultural Values & Relationship Frameworks put forward by individual hapū of Tūranganui -a-Kiwa
- Consultation Report, and
- Assessment of Alternatives.

Community engagement

You may already be aware of the Twin Berth project as EPL has been discussing the project for many years with its stakeholders and the community to ensure there is wide awareness and understanding of the project. This engagement has included meetings and information sessions with iwi, hapū and whanau, community organisations and individuals (primarily adjacent landowners and occupiers) about the project.

As well as this proactive engagement with the wider community the two forums, the Port Community Liaison Group (PCLG) and Te Tai Uru, that have been established through previous resource consents processes have been well informed of the project and have been kept up to date as the application has progressed. The PCLG that was established in March 2009 and meets every four months and comprises of neighbouring residents, iwi, GDC and previous consent submitters; Te Tai Uru which comprises of hapū from Tūranganui-a-Kiwa/Poverty Bay area has been meeting bi-monthly.

The potential adverse effects of the Twin Berths project have been fully assessed will be effectively managed through the project design, the proposed construction management, port operational and monitoring plans and consent conditions (including those related to traffic, noise, dredging and ecology). EPL intends to seek that the resource consent applications are publicly notified. Consequently, all stakeholders and the community will have an opportunity to review the AEE and submit on the application as part of the resource consent application process.

Once the AEE is lodged and accepted by Gisborne District Council, all information will be uploaded to our webpage for stakeholders and the public to review. EPL will begin drafting resource consent conditions once the AEE has been lodged.

We look forward to engaging with Gisborne District Council throughout this process. If you have any queries on the project, please do not hesitate to contact me at marty.bayley@eastland.nz or 0275 442525.

Nāku noa, nā,



Marty Bayley
Ports Infrastructure Manager

CC

- Todd Whitaker, Planning Works

