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Sent: Tuesday, 13 December 2022 at 11:02:25 GMT+13
Subject: Coastal Ratepayers United

Good Morning Mr Edwards,

Congratulations on your appointment as the Kapiti Coast District Council's new CEO. Having spoken to several Councillors, I understand that your appointment has intimated a commitment to transparency and accountability.

I write on behalf of Coastal Ratepayers United Inc. (CRU).

As background, CRU, a community-based organisation was formed in 2012 as a direct result of coastal hazard lines placed by the KCDC. Since then, CRU has been committed to "Good Science, Good Law and Good Planning".

In the past, CRU had rightly challenged the coastal science and the planning upon which the KCDC relied upon for their Proposed District Plan in 2012.

In 2016, CRU made an application to the Environment Court for 2 declarations, seeking clarification on matters of law with respect to Council's intent and actions;

Declaration 1 - that in embarking on a full plan review and withdrawing all of the coastal hazard provisions, Council should either have progressed a variation to the PDP, or have notified the Operative District Plan provisions it intended to remain in force for submission and hearing.

Regarding declaration 1, the court found that the Council's intention that the Operative District Plan, coastal hazard provisions should remain in force for another 4 years was "seriously unsatisfactory", however, the Court did not find that the RMA requires that those operative provisions need to be re-notified.

Declaration 2 - that in executing partial withdrawal of certain non coastal hazard provisions, the Council altered the meaning of those provisions to such an extent that the withdrawal should be been done by a variation.

Regarding declaration 2, the Court found that the KCDC did not comply with the law in its partial withdrawal of certain provisions and the Council has since withdrawn those provision in full from the Proposed District Plan as a means to remedy the fault.

One of the positives to come out of this exercise is that in trying to find agreement on the matters before the Court, the parties had developed a more constructive relationship which would be vital in the next stage of decision making with the wider community about coastal matters.

It was in that spirit that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was jointly written and signed by both parties at the time - from CRU our previous Chair, Mr Paul Dunmore and from the KCDC, former CEO, Mr Wayne Maxwell.

Given the changes both at CRU and the KCDC, I would like to request an updated MoU be signed, re-committing to the positive outcome of the 2016 Environment Court action.

Last month, CRU celebrated its 10th Anniversary - and extended an invitation to the Mayor and elected members to attend our AGM. As you may know, the Mayor and several Councillors and Community Board Members attended.

The Mayor's attendance and comments signalled to CRU the willingness of the Council to be able to work together on the issue of coastal hazards - and after 10 years - the possibility of finalising the issue in a co-operative and constructive manner.

With this in mind, I would appreciate a meeting to discuss the above matters and other issues regarding coastal hazards early in the new year.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience,

Salima Padamsey
Chair - Coastal Ratepayers United Inc.
<http://www.cru.org.nz>