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2 December 2003  
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name of the Wellington Regional Council

Dear Mark

### **Chrystalls Extended Construction Programme**

I am now in a position to formally respond to your letter of 27 August 2003 advising us of your Council's resolution regarding the programming of the Chrystalls Extended stopbank in Otaki and our subsequent meeting on 24 September 2003.

Our Flood Protection Department has put some effort into considering the issue and believes construction could be brought forward provided there was support from GWRC Councillors, your Council and the Community. I have attached a copy of an internal memo, which sets out the key issues from Greater Wellington's perspective.

### **Where to from here?**

As we discussed at the meeting at this point your Council needs to confirm whether it still supports the desire to initiate bringing forward the construction of the Chrystalls Extended stopbank and delaying the South Waitohu stopbank, considering the issues raised in the attached memo.

If your Council does support the initiative then we need to agree a process for the consultation. The key milestone to aim for would be a submission by Kapiti Coast District Council on Greater Wellington's Annual Plan in April 2004. I understand that a community meeting is proposed in late March 2004 to provide feedback from the June 2003 community meeting regarding the proposed flood hazard review and District Plan change. It would therefore be logical to aim to provide feedback from the consultation with individual groups regarding the works priority at the same meeting. The response from that meeting would then be able to be fed into your April 2004 submission to our Annual Plan. GWRC staff would need to meet with Kapiti Coast District Council officers in early December 2003 to agree who would be consulted with and when.

## **Funding**

The changes in the works programme would result in an increased cost to the current ratepayers and this would need to be considered as part of the consultation process. You will recall that when KCDC first raised this issue you stated that KCDC was prepared to negotiate some variation from the 50/50 funding regime. You will see from the report that the cost to GWRC of bringing the work forward is \$270,000 over six years. That would equate to a KCDC contribution of \$45,000 per annum for those six years.

We will await your response before proceeding any further with the above initiative. Please keep in mind however that a quick response will be needed if reasonable time is to be allowed to consult with the individual community groups prior to the March 2004 meeting. Clearly, I can not make any commitment that your proposal will be accepted by the GWRC. However, GWRC stands ready to support KCDC with the consultation phase.

Yours sincerely

**Barry Harris**  
Chief Executive

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Encl.