

SUBMISSION 188

FORM 5

AGRESEARCH LIMITED SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 50 TO THE UPPER HUTT CITY DISTRICT PLAN - RURAL REVIEW

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

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This is a submission on Proposed Plan Change 50 to the Upper Hutt City District Plan - Rural Review (**PC50**).

AgResearch could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

AgResearch's general submission is summarised in **Section 1** below.

AgResearch's submission on PC50, and the specific relief sought, is set out within the table in **Appendix A**.

AgResearch does not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

1. GENERAL SUBMISSION

- 1.1 AgResearch is New Zealand's largest Crown Research Institute with four Research Campuses (including Invermay) and nine Research Farms, employing approximately 750 staff nationwide. Formerly known as the New Zealand Pastoral Agriculture Research Institute Limited, it was created as a CRI in 1992 out of the research arm of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) and the agriculture section of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR).
- 1.2 AgResearch's purpose is to enhance the value, productivity and profitability of New Zealand's pastoral, agri-food and agri-technology sector value chains to contribute to economic growth and beneficial environmental and social outcomes for New Zealand. This sector is the backbone of New Zealand's economy and its continued success is essential to this country's living standards. AgResearch's research facilities are a significant contributor to this purpose, providing multi-decade information on long term impacts of farming practices, environmental changes and resulting farm system responses.
- 1.3 The Company works with stakeholders to develop leading-edge scientific solutions for a range of national and international customers, including government agencies, industry bodies and private companies. AgResearch is the lead CRI in the areas of pasture based animal production systems, new pasture plant varieties, agricultural-derived greenhouse gas mitigation and pastoral climate change adaption, agri-food and bio-based products and agri-technologies and integrated social and biophysical research to support pastoral sector development. The research undertaken by AgResearch is of national significance to the agricultural sector (including the research undertaken at the Kaitoke Research Farm as discussed further below).
- 1.4 Within the Upper Hutt City District, AgResearch used to operate the 202.5534 hectare Kaitoke Research Farm located on State Highway 2 in the Kaitoke Valley area. The Kaitoke Research Farm had operated as a research facility since 1955. In 2014, AgResearch sold the property to Wellington Regional Council who have long-term plans to establish additional water reservoirs (primarily to supply water to urban areas in the Wellington Region). In order to continue the same research activities, AgResearch initially leased back the entire property from Wellington Regional Council. However, AgResearch recently made the decision to surrender the lease so no longer utilises the property as a research facility or for any other purpose. Accordingly, there is no longer a need for Council to retain the following site specific permitted activity rule from the Operative Upper Hutt City District Plan within PC50¹:

Field based agricultural research and ancillary buildings and activities (including field days and open days) on the Kaitoke Agricultural Research Farm legally described as Pt DP 12431 Lot 2 DP 22844 & sec 41 Pt secs 1, 2, 29 Pakuratahi Dist Blk XV Akatarawa SD - Animal Research Farm Sec 1 SO 24123 Sec 43 SO 23658 - Animal Research Station, Sec 3 Pakuratahi Dist Blk XV Akatarawa SD.

¹ Refer Activity Table 19.2 in the Operative District Plan for site specific rule.

2 SPECIFIC SUBMISSION POINTS

- 2.1 AgResearch's specific submission point is provided in **Appendix A**.
- 2.2 In respect of the submission point in **Appendix A**, AgResearch seeks:
- All necessary and consequential amendments, including any amendments to the provisions themselves or to other provisions linked to those provisions submitted on, and including any cross references in other chapters; and
 - All further relief considered necessary to give effect to the concern described above and in **Appendix A**.

Signature AGRESEARCH LIMITED
By its authorised agents Mitchell Daysh Limited



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Date 17 November 2023

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APPENDIX A: AGRESEARCH'S SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 50 TO THE UPPER HUTT CITY DISTRICT PLAN – RURAL REVIEW

REF	PROVISION	SUPPORT OPPOSE	AGRESEARCH'S COMMENTS	RELIEF SOUGHT
1	RPROZ-R3	Oppose	<p>Consistent with the Operative Upper Hutt City District Plan², Rule RPROZ-R3 permits the following within AgResearch's Kaitoke Research Farm:</p> <p><i>Field based agricultural research and ancillary buildings and ancillary activities (including field days and open days) on the Kaitoke Agricultural Research Farm legally described as Pt DP 12431 Lot 2 DP 22844 & sec 41 Pt secs 1, 2, 29 Pakuratahi Dist Blk XV Akatarawa SD - Animal Research Farm Sec 1 SO 24123 Sec 43 SO 23658 - Animal Research Station, Sec 3 Pakuratahi Dist Blk XV Akatarawa SD.</i></p> <p>AgResearch has surrendered the lease on the Kaitoke Research Farm so no longer utilises the property as a research facility or for any other purpose. Accordingly, there is no longer a need to retain Rule RPROZ-R3.</p>	Delete Rule RPROZ-R3.

² Refer Activity Table 19.2 in the Operative District Plan for site specific rule.