

**BEFORE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED
BY THE OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021
(Non-freshwater parts)

AND

IN THE MATTER of the First Schedule to the Act

AND

IN THE MATTER of a submission under clause 6 of the First Schedule

BY **BEEF + LAMB NEW ZEALAND LIMITED and DEER
INDUSTRY NEW ZEALAND
Submitters**

**BRIEF OF SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE ON RECENT BEEF + LAMB NEW
ZEALAND LIMITED ENGAGEMENT WITH OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**

ANDREW NEIL BURTT

8 February 2023

Solicitor Acting:

CP Thomsen and CH Luisetti
Fletcher Vautier Moore Lawyers
PO Box 3029
Richmond 7050

Telephone: (03) 543 8301
Email: cthomsen@fvm.co.nz
cluisetti@fvm.co.nz

Counsel Instructed:

Dr R J Somerville KC
Barristers Chambers
PO Box 5117
Dunedin 9058

Telephone: (03) 4773488
Email: rjs@barristerschambers.co.nz

BACKGROUND

1. My name is Andrew Neil Burt.
2. My qualifications and experience are set out in paragraphs 2 to 4 of my brief of evidence dated 23 November 2023.
3. I have read the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses in the Environment Court 2014 Practice Note and agree to comply with it. I confirm this evidence has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the 2014 Environment Court Practice Note. I declare I am an employee of the submitter B+LNZ. I confirm the opinions I have expressed in this brief of evidence represent my true and complete professional opinions. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions expressed.

EVIDENCE

4. I have been asked to give an update on the progress of the Economic Work Programme, which was initiated by the Otago Regional Council (ORC) in the second half of 2021, to form a better understanding of the use of fresh water in Otago's economy.
5. The primary driver for the work was the need for Otago Regional Council to develop a Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP) to implement the National Policy Statement for Fresh Water Management (NPS-FM 2020) in the region.
6. Beyond the LWRP, the work was part of a longer-term move for ORC to build capability and understanding around the use of fresh water in different sectors of the economy, its sustainability, and the

wellbeing of people and communities to inform future policy processes.

7. To date, I have been involved in the first of the five projects within the Economic Work Programme, which produced a report called the “Farmers and Growers in Otago”.¹ The purpose of the report is to characterise farming and growing in Otago to improve the general understanding of these topics ahead of development of the new Land and Water Regional Plan.²
8. The report was developed by the ORC’s Industry Advisory Group, which is made up of key rural sector industry groups including the Foundation for Arable Research, Horticulture New Zealand, Deer Industry New Zealand, Beef + Lamb New Zealand, DairyNZ and the Central Otago Winegrowers Association, along with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).
9. The Farmers and Growers in Otago report brings together information on farming and growing practices across Otago spanning at least 150 years. This work draws on research completed in Otago for MPI’s Farm Monitoring Programme, which was a national effort in co-operation with industry groups from across the agricultural sector.

¹ The other reports arising from the Economic Work Programme to be released are: Summary of Otago’s Catchment Stories; Testing the Impacts of Environmental Actions; An Otago Economic Profile for Fresh Water and Land; and Fresh water and the economies of Kāi Tahu and Māori in Otago.

² Moran, E. (ed.) (2022). Farmers and Growers in Otago. EM consulting for Otago Regional Council (LWRP Economic Work Programme), Dunedin, p10.

10. The main body of the report is divided into six chapters including:
- (a) Sheep and beef cattle farming;
 - (b) Deer farming;
 - (c) Arable farming;
 - (d) Dairy farming;
 - (e) Horticulture; and
 - (f) Viticulture.
11. These chapters are specific to their industry however generally cover a historical overview, size and distribution, main features and important connections with processing facilities and markets.

Andrew Neil Burt

8 February 2023