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RiverLink – making a submission

Welcome





Topics

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- Making a submission
- What happens next?

Applying for a resource consent

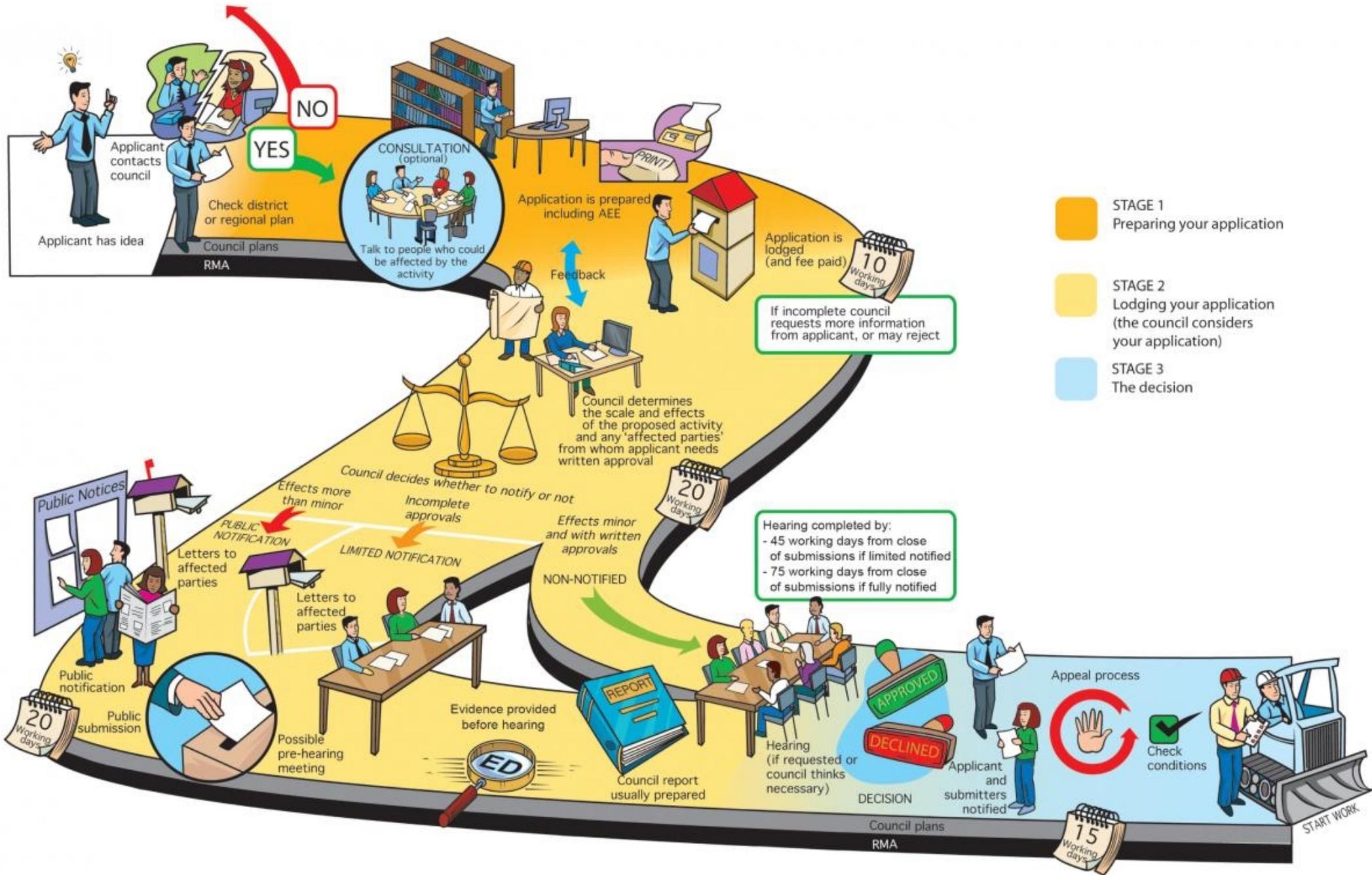
2.1



Resource consent process



APPLYING FOR A RESOURCE CONSENT



RiverLink application



What makes up the RiverLink suite of application documents?

- Two applicants for different aspects of the project
 - RiverLink Applicants – Greater Wellington, Waka Kotahi and Hutt City
 - Kiwirail
- Two applications
 - RiverLink – Resource consents and Notices of Requirement to designate land
 - Kiwirail – Notice of Requirement to designate land
- Supporting information
 - Assessment of effects on the environment
 - Technical assessments
 - Urban and Landscape Design Framework
 - Drawings

RiverLink vocab

Resource Management Act	Over-arching legislation for NZ's planning system
Territorial Authority	Hutt City Council
Regional Council	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Regulators/Consent Authority	Hutt City and Greater Wellington Regional Councils
Designation	A planning technique used by Ministers of the Crown, local authorities and network utility operators. A designation is a form of 'spot zoning' over a site, area or route. The 'spot zoning' authorises the requiring authority's work and activity on the site, area or route without the need for land use consent.
Notice of Requirement	Document identifying the land which a Requiring Authority needs in order to build and/or operate a public work. The Notice protects land for the designated purpose until the designation is confirmed.
Requiring Authority	Organisation with the ability to issue a Notice of Requirement to designate land and to operate in accordance with the designation. Either specifically identified in the RMA or approved by Ministry for the Environment
Resource consent	Permit required from either the territorial authority or the regional council to undertake activities on land or water or in the air. Regulates land use; discharges to air, land and water and using water.
Decision-maker	Independent commissioners appointed to decide the RiverLink and Kiwirail applications on behalf of the consent authority

Making a submission



Making a submission about a proposed plan or resource consent

3.2



Anyone can make a submission on the RiverLink and/or Kiwirail applications.

Regardless of what you want to happen, a clear, well-written submission is more effective than an unstructured one

As a submitter you can:

- support or oppose RiverLink and/or the Kiwirail application, or be neutral
- request to be heard in support of your submission

An effective submission will state what effects you think RiverLink and/or the Kiwirail application will have, and why you support or oppose the application(s). If you would like to see changes to what's proposed, you can suggest alternatives.

To write a clear and effective submission:

- stick to the facts – don't get distracted by personal issues or past disputes
- focus on the environmental effects
- be specific about your concerns, and give examples
- tell GWRC or HCC what you want them to do – don't leave them to guess. Do you want them to approve the application(s) or decline the application(s)?
- write in clear, everyday language.

What not to do in your submission

Make sure that your submission does not:

- include any personal feelings you have about GWRC, HCC or its officers
- refer to issues or effects that are not related to the RiverLink or the Kiwirail applications
- raise the issue of your business being affected by a competitor. Trade competition is not a valid issue for consideration under the RMA.

Lodging your submission

- Online at [RiverLink Resource Consents & Notices of Requirement | Have Your Say | Greater Wellington \(gw.govt.nz\)](#) - preferred

- By email to notifications@gw.govt.nz

By post – this must reach GWRC by 5pm Wednesday 22 September.

Hand delivery to GWRC's offices - this must reach GWRC by 5pm Wednesday 22 September.

A copy of your submission must be provided to the applicant at the same time as you lodge with GWRC. This is done automatically if you lodge your submission online. Otherwise emailed to mary.ocallahan@ghd.com or posted to PO Box 1746 Wellington 6140

Submission content

- Name
- Address
- Contact details
- Identify whether you support or oppose all or part of the RiverLink and/or Kiwirail applications, or whether you are neutral
- The reason why you support, oppose or have a neutral view
- What you want GW and/or HCC to do – grant or decline the application(s)
- Whether you want to be heard in support of your submission

What does “wish to be heard” mean?

As part of their submission, all submitters must identify whether they want to appear at the hearing for the RiverLink and Kiwirail applications and speak in support of their submission, or not.

It is not obligatory to speak to your submission – all submissions are considered equally by the decision-makers.

If you want to be heard, GW will notify you of the hearing date and you will have an opportunity to speak to your submission.

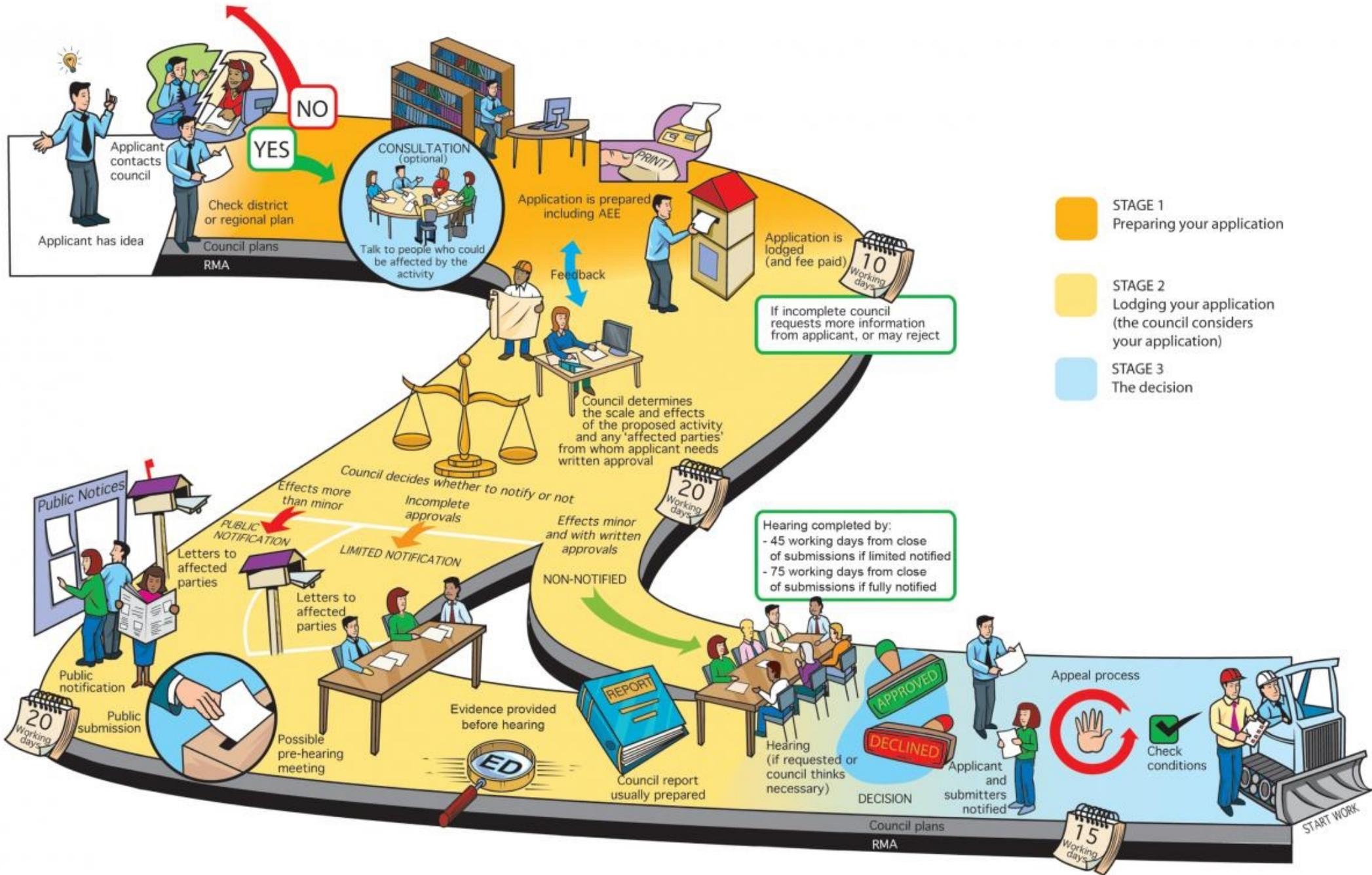
You can speak to your submission regardless of whether you support or oppose the application(s).

More guidance is available in the Ministry for the Environment Everyday Guide to the RMA

What happens next?



APPLYING FOR A RESOURCE CONSENT



Appearing at a hearing about a proposed plan or resource consent

3.3



Once the submission period closes, GWRC and HCC will summarise the submissions. They will assess them and make recommendations to the decisions-makers about which submissions to accept or reject. This will be documented in their report – called the s42A or Officers’ report. This report will be publicly available.

RiverLink and Kiwirail will provide evidence in support of their applications once the Officers’ report is published.

The s42A report and the applicants’ evidence will be posted on the application website. Submitters who wanted to be heard will have the opportunity to submit evidence in response but only if they are providing expert evidence in support of their submission. The evidence must be related to the original submission – it cannot raise new issues.

Preparation of the s42A report, the applicants’ evidence and any submitter evidence must be submitted in accordance with pre-determined timeframes.

At the hearing

- The hearing will run over multiple days, during the day. Anyone can attend the hearing, sit in the gallery and listen to proceedings
- The decision-makers will listen to the various parties in order
 - The applicants
 - Submitters
 - GW and HCC as regulators
- Only those submitters who identified in their submissions that they wanted to be heard can speak at the hearing.
- Submitters wishing to be heard can only speak about matters they raised in their original submission. They can't raise new points.
- Submitters who didn't provide expert evidence can still prepare a short statement to speak to at the hearing. This does not need to be pre-circulated.
- GW will manage the hearing process and the schedule.

After the hearing

- The decision-makers will meet and decide whether they will grant or decline the application(s). If they decide to grant the application(s) they will also identify which conditions will apply.
- They will issue a decision and GW will advise the applicants and submitters.
- If there are aspects of the decision that the applicant(s), GW and HCC or the submitters aren't happy with, they can decide to appeal the decision. This must happen within 15 working days of the decision being issued.
- If there is an appeal, this is heard in the Environment Court.
- If the applications are granted, and there are no appeals, then GW, HCC and Waka Kotahi will be able to start work constructing RiverLink.



*** Thank You**