

**In the matter of the Resource Management Act 1991**

and

**In the matter of the Central Hawkes Bay District Plan**

and

**In the matter of** submissions by the House Movers Section of the New Zealand Heavy Haulage Association Inc for the Miscellaneous Hearing

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**Statement of Evidence of Elwyn Fryer**  
**(Branch Manager, Britton Housemovers, Hawkes Bay)**

Dated: 31 October 2022

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**For:** Hearing 6: Miscellaneous

**Hearing date:** 15 – 17 November 2022

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**NEW ZEALAND HEAVY HAULAGE ASSOCIATION INC**

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I, **Elwyn Fryer**, state:

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 I am the Branch Manager of Britton Housemovers for Hawkes Bay, with yards in Hastings and Waipawa. I have been involved in the housemoving industry in this role for the last 8 years. The Hawkes Bay Branch moves around 170 houses each year, which are a mixture of relocation of existing buildings onto a new site, the re-siting of building onto a new position within the same site, and the transport of a newly constructed house from the manufacturing location onto a new site.

## **2. Summary of Evidence**

2.1 My evidence is given in support of evidence of Jonathan Bhana-Thomson (Chief Executive of New Zealand Heavy Haulage Association Inc, the '**Association**') dated 31 October 2022

2.2 My evidence primarily relates to the proposed performance standard that relocated buildings are to be placed on permanent foundations within 2 weeks.

2.3 My evidence sets out those situations where placement of a relocated building onto permanent foundations in a 2 week period would be difficult to achieve.

## **3. Permanent foundation performance standard**

3.1 The Association is seeking that the performance standard for permitted activity status for a relocated building to be placed on permanent foundations is changed from 2 weeks to *2 months*.

3.2 In my experience of moving houses into and within various Council areas – including the Central Hawkes Bay area – there are times when due to circumstances that the timeline of a two week period could cause issues.

3.3 In 95% of houses that we move, we aim to place the building onto new foundations at the time of the move. This is more cost-effective for my operation, in that if my staff are onsite, that installing the new foundations at that time will mean that we do not need to return to the site to undertake this job.

- 3.4 However if we arrive to site, and there are wet ground conditions which would affect the integrity of the construction of the foundations, then obviously we would not be able to proceed. In this case the option is to place the house on temporary supports, make the site safe, and return when the ground has dried out.
- 3.5 At other times, I have experienced that once we have commenced constructing the foundations, but the ground conditions were not as expected, we have then needed a check of the ground or a revision of the foundation design. In these situations, there is extra time required to undertake this process.
- 3.6 In both of these situations, the need to undertake this within a two week period could place pressure on all the parties concerned to get this completed within this time frame. I acknowledge that the building staff within the Council are approachable towards explaining the situation, and obtaining some leeway.
- 3.7 However I believe that the Council could save some stress about the two week deadline by extending this to a slightly longer period. I support the Association's compromise proposal outlined today, that a four week period would be a suitable time to allow this leeway to get the building onto new foundations. One option could be that if the building was unlikely to be placed on permanent foundations within a two week period, that it be jacked down onto temporary blocks so that it is not left supported on stand or stys. This could help address any safety and visual issues. Our proposal would be that the performance standard still states a 4 week period for the placement on permanent foundations.

Dated: 31 October 2022

**Elwyn Fryer**

*Hawkes Bay Branch Manager, Britton Housemovers*