



**Media Release**  
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### **Directors appointed to Waimea Community Dam Company**

Five of the seven directors have been appointed to the governance board of Waimea Water, the company created to build and manage the Waimea Community Dam on behalf of the project's partners, Tasman District Council and Waimea Irrigators Ltd (WIL).

The majority of the appointments became official with the registration of the company on 27<sup>th</sup> November as a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO). All of the appointments are conditional on the project achieving Financial Close. If this milestone is not achieved the company will be dissolved, removing the need for a board.

The seven directors on the CCO's Board represent the interests of three parties; four for Tasman District Council, two for Waimea Irrigators Ltd and one for Ngati Koata, recognising the recent settlements in the area.

Establishing the company, Waimea Water, and its governance structure now will enable the project to move rapidly once financial close is achieved, said Tasman Mayor Richard Kempthorne. "In addition to the successful registration my confidence in the success of the company is reinforced by the calibre of board member the project has attracted."

"We cannot be accused of rushing the project with it starting in 2001 following one of the worst droughts on record, however as the external funding we have managed to secure will not be available forever we need to get this project over the line."

The directors will undertake their own due diligence of the project prior to financial close when they become responsible for the construction of the dam and the security of water supply it will deliver.

“As an infrastructure project it does not get much bigger or more important than the dam in Tasman and as such I am confident we have the right people in the job,” concluded Mayor Kempthorne.

#### **Council appointments to the Waimea Water Ltd.**

**Ken Smale** brings to the Board nearly 50 years of extensive engineering experience and knowledge in all aspects of dams including design, consenting, construction, operation, safety, hydro power generation and irrigation.

Coming from 5 years involvement with the Central Plains Irrigation Project in Canterbury worth \$450m. Ken has also been the deputy chairman of DamWatch for 15 years and a director of Southern Generation Australia and their subsidiary companies of Meridian.

**Karen Jordan** brings over 20 years experience in the UK energy sector working in a range of senior roles in organisations such as the UK Ministry of Defence and National Grid Plc. Prior to arriving in New Zealand in late 2015 Karen held a number of non-executive Director roles in the UK public sector including the Cabinet Office, Treasury, Rural Payments Board and the Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs.

Since arriving Karen has been appointed to directorships with the City Rail Link Ltd and the New Zealand Defence Force Risk & Assurance Committee.

Karen sees this role aligned to her background where she has been involved in major capital project delivery in both the private and public sector, including construction of the Auckland’s underground railway, major UK utility construction programmes and defence force projects.

**Doug Hattersley** is motivated for this role as a ratepayer, understanding the shareholders will come under much scrutiny and as such is keen to ensure any time and costs over run are well managed.

Doug has had a career in engineering, with key achievements including project director for the engineering and architectural design management of metro tunnels and stations in Singapore and as construction manager for the Provisional Airport Authority for the Hong Kong Airport reclamation.

With significant experience in hydroelectric projects, including dams, one of his earlier projects was to inform insurers after the Opuha dam failed.

One appointment by the Council is still to be made.