

**BEFORE THE INDEPENDENT HEARING COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY THE
WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991 ('the Act')
AND
IN THE MATTER of Hearing of Submissions and Further Submissions on the
Proposed Waimakariri District Plan (**PWDP or the Proposed Plan**)
AND
IN THE MATTER OF Submissions and Further Submission on the Proposed Waimakariri
District Plan by **McAlpines Limited (McAlpines)**

SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE OF JOHN DUNCAN ON BEHALF OF MCALPINES LTD

Dated: 18 August 2023

Presented for filing by:
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INTRODUCTION

- 1 My name is John Maxwell Duncan.
- 2 I am the Senior Advisor for the McAlpines Group, a Director of McAlpines Ltd and McAlpines Timber Ltd, and have been employed by McAlpines Ltd for 53 years. I am also a shareholder of the above companies.
- 3 I have earlier prepared a statement of evidence for McAlpines regarding this matter. My experience and history with the company are stated in that evidence.
- 4 I have been requested by the company to prepare this supplementary evidence to assist the Hearings Panel in their consideration of the McAlpines' submission.
- 5 To help in the presentation of my supplementary evidence, I have attached a site plan at **Appendix A** and two photographs at **Appendix B**.

SCOPE OF SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE

- 6 In my supplementary evidence I address the following topics:
 - (a) The number of persons employed to operate the sawmill;
 - (b) The steps taken by McAlpines to reduce the noise from the sawmill; and
 - (c) Factors that limit McAlpines' ability to reduce sawmill noise.
- 7 As discussed in my earlier evidence, McAlpines sawmill operations at Southbrook entails a sawmill and associated timber treatment, timber drying, timber machining activities and related machinery and vehicles (collectively described as the **sawmill**).

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED TO OPERATE THE SAWMILL

- 8 McAlpines employs 65 full time staff to work in the sawmill. There are approximately 20 people indirectly employed by the sawmill.
- 9 Based on running full time staff, McAlpines is likely to be one of the top 10 employers in Rangiora.

STEPS TAKEN TO REDUCE NOISE FROM THE SAWMILL

- 10 The measures we have taken to manage noise from machinery and operations that generate the most noise are explained below.

- 11 The Chipper is a machine located in a shed adjacent to building marked **10** (slightly to the north) on the site plan (see attached at **Appendix A**). In order to reduce noise emitted from the use of the chipper, the building was constructed with an outer and an inner wall. The cavity between these walls was also filled with noise dampening insulation.
- 12 The Waco planer is located in the building marked **16** on the site plan. The Waco planer is housed inside a specially constructed noise-proof enclosure, designed to reduce the noise emitted from the operation of this machine.
- 13 We try to limit our operations as far as possible to within the usual business hours of five days a week, from 7am to 4:30pm. The kilns, marked **18** on the site plan, run after the main operating hours. However, the kilns do not emit much noise.
- 14 McAlpines has removed some noisy plant in more recent years. As mentioned in my earlier evidence, McAlpines decommissioned the bandsaw in 2021 and the steamer in 2022. This has had the effect of reducing the noise emitted from the sawmill.
- 15 McAlpines has constructed a 2.1m high wooden fence along the Todds Road boundary. The fence is **marked pink on the site plan at Appendix A**. Two photographs of the current fence are attached at **Appendix B**. I am unsure when the fence was constructed, possibly 20 years ago.
- 16 Later this year McAlpines plans to extend this fence to the end of the Todds Road boundary, **marked yellow on the site plan**. We plan to construct the fence to the same height as the previous fence, but a 'board and batten' fence (timber over the gaps between the palings). The extension of this fence will help further reduce the emissions of noise from the sawmill.

FACTORS THAT LIMIT MCALPINES ABILITY TO REDUCE SAWMILL NOISE

- 17 The nature of some machinery we use to operate the sawmill makes it very difficult to reduce noise from those machines.
- 18 Forklifts used around the site generate reverse beeping sounds. It is not practical for McAlpines to reduce this sound, as it is important for the safety of staff that are regularly moving within and across the site.
- 19 The stacker is located in the building marked **8** on the site plan. As mentioned at paragraph 23 of my earlier evidence, the two ends of the building are open so

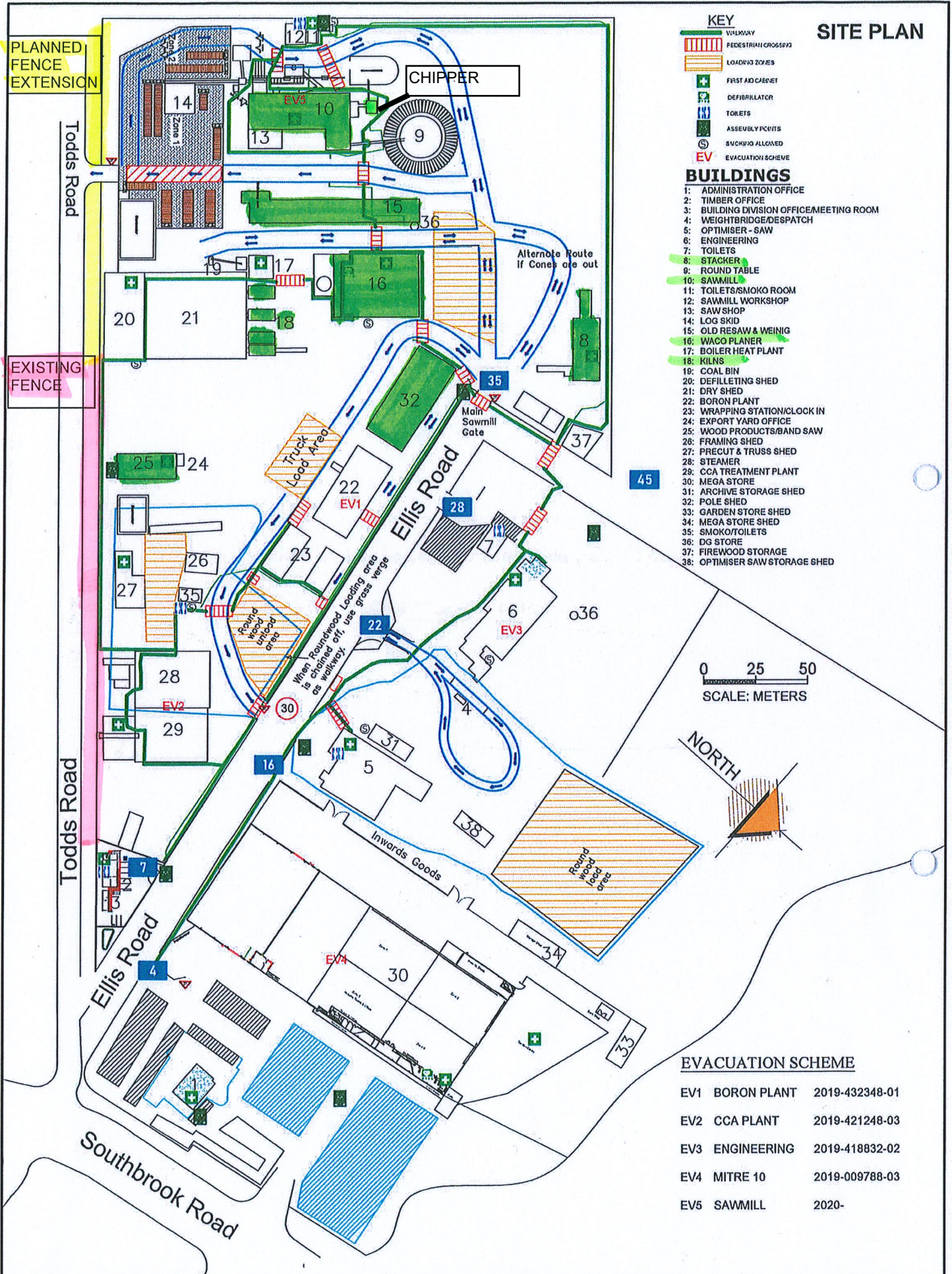
that it can receive and dispatch packs of timber. Noise is emitted from both ends of the building. Closing the ends of the shed is not practical, as this would greatly inhibit the operation of the stacker.

John Duncan

18 August 2023

APPENDIX A

SITE PLAN



PROJECT:
Site Evacuation and Emergency Drawing
(SEED)

SHEET TITLE:
McALPINES TIMBER Ltd
Todds Road / Ellis Road Site

Drawing No: 1701
Sheet No: 1 of 1
Sheet Size: A3
Issue: C
Date: June 2020

APPENDIX B

Photograph 1 and Photograph 2

Two photographs of the current fence



