



The National Consenting Process: The Waterview Experience from the Three Professional Perspectives

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Overview of Presentation

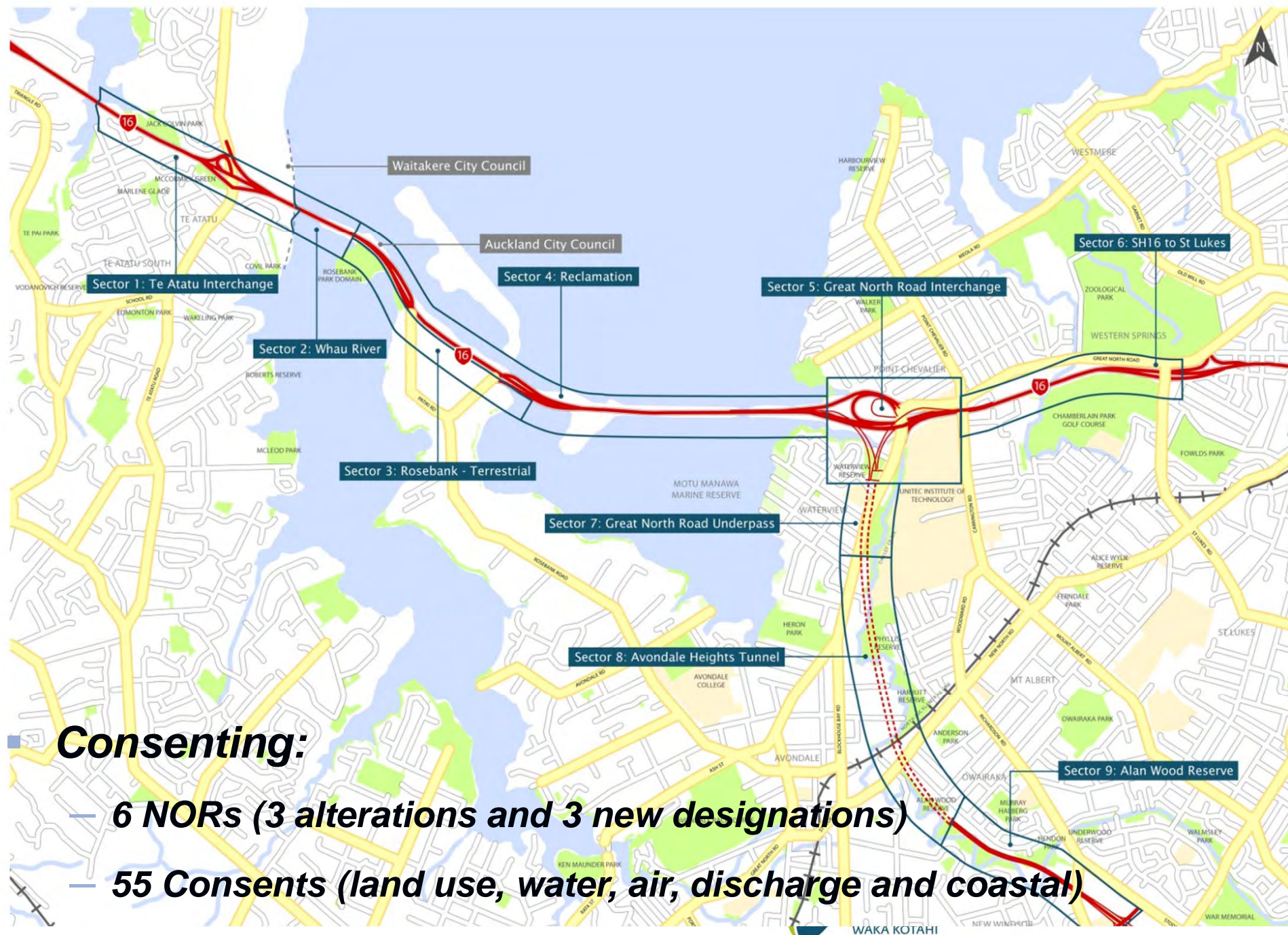
1. Waterview Connection
2. The National Consenting Process
3. NZTA Perspective
4. Project Management Perspective
5. Planning Perspective
6. Lessons learnt



Project Overview

WATERVIEW CONNECTION





Consenting:

- 6 NORs (3 alterations and 3 new designations)
- 55 Consents (land use, water, air, discharge and coastal)

Project fly through

National Consenting Process


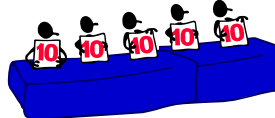
THE PROCESS

How has the RMA been “streamlined”?

- *Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Act 2009*
- *Part 6AA Proposals of National Significance*
- *Lodge directly with the EPA (new consenting body)*
- *Minister decides whether project is of “national significance” to be considered by a Board of Inquiry or Environment Court*
- *Decision within 9 months of notification*

Why “streamline” the RMA?

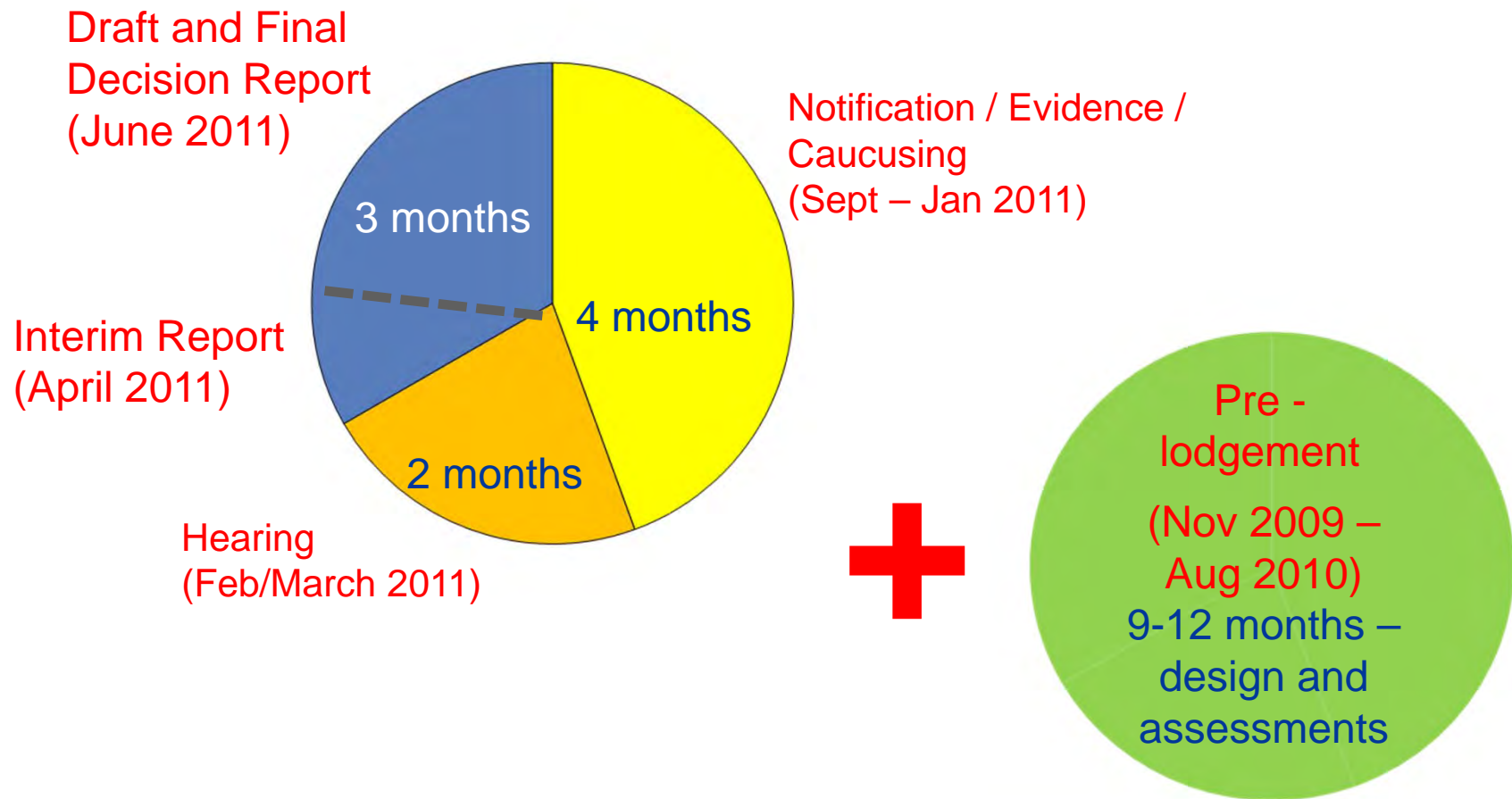
- *The National Consenting Process Aims to:*

- *Improve timeframes* 
- *Reduce (time delays) and costs* 
- *Provide a level of certainty* 
- *Give a consistent approach* 
- *Independent decision makers* 

9 month timeframe

- Decision to be made within 9 months
- Can be extended (to 18 months) by Minister, only under special circumstances
- Provides certainty to applicants on when they will get a decision
- A number of challenges

The Programme



Waterview Connection Project

– Scale of Application



Lodgement – 9 months

- *3 volumes AEE*
- *31 technical reports*

Notification – 1 month

- *252 submissions*
- *183 wish to be heard*
- *24 major groups*
- *12 groups had legal counsel*

Hearing Preparation

- *37 Evidence in Chief – 1 month from close of submissions*
 - *34 Rebuttal – 6 weeks (INCLUDING XMAS)*
-

The Documents as Lodged...



Rob Mason

PROJECT MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE



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Role in Project

Project Manager:

- Working with the NZTA to manage programme, and risks, and cost control
- Coordination of the Team through the Scheme design phase

Design Manager

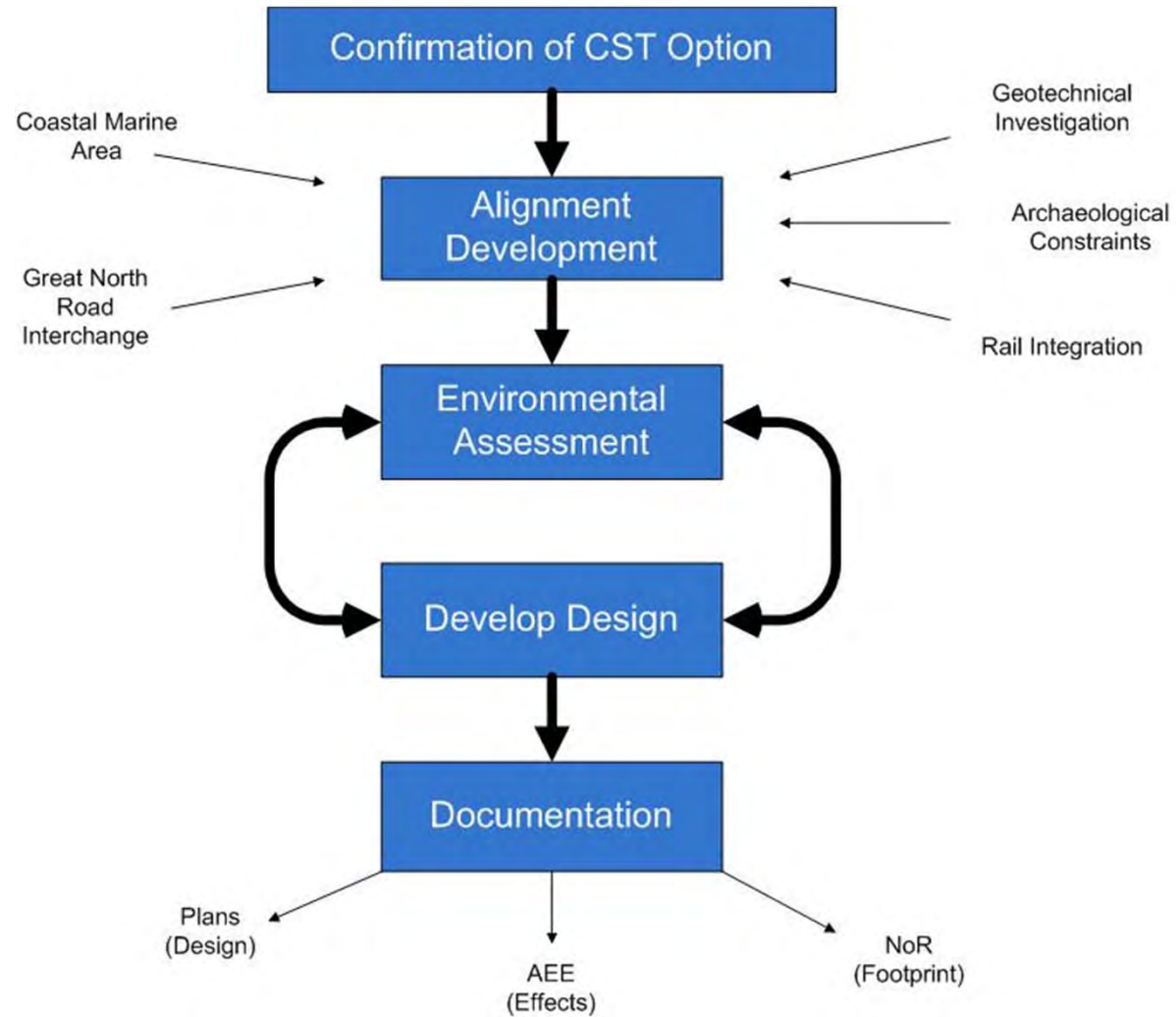
- Managing design resource, brought together from several different organisations
- Delivery of Design for Assessment by specialists

Design Process

- Multiple options evaluated, dating back to 2000
- Final Option evaluation early 2009, with ‘combined surface tunnel’ confirmed as preferred
- Design developed with a focus on:
 - Programme (BoI timeframes fixed)
 - Effects based design
 - Value Management
 - Establish early Monitoring (groundwater, air and water quality, etc)



Pre Lodgement Design Process



Tools and Lessons

- Need to document option development and value management
- Identify where design detail is required to inform effects.
- Management Plans can be used to provide flexibility
- Less opportunity to build in flexibility where submissions are made
- Programme driven design
 - Regular integrated team meetings
 - Co-ordinated design development
 - Scope review/ challenge

Deepak Rama

CLIENT'S PERSPECTIVE

NZTA Strategic Priorities

- *Delivering & planning Roads Of National Significance*
- *Improve the road system*
- *Improving efficiency of freight movements*
- *Improving customer service*
- *Improving effectiveness of public transport*



Criteria for a Project of National significance

- *Generates widespread public interest*
- *Significant use of natural or physical resources*
- *Network utility operation extending over more than one district*
- *Project provides wider regional and national benefits*

Why Did the NZTA take Waterview to the EPA?

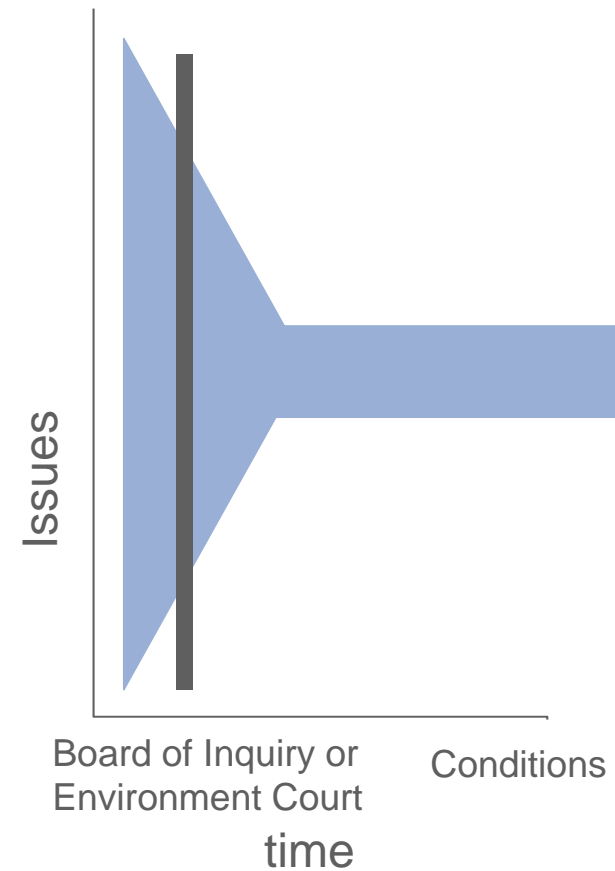
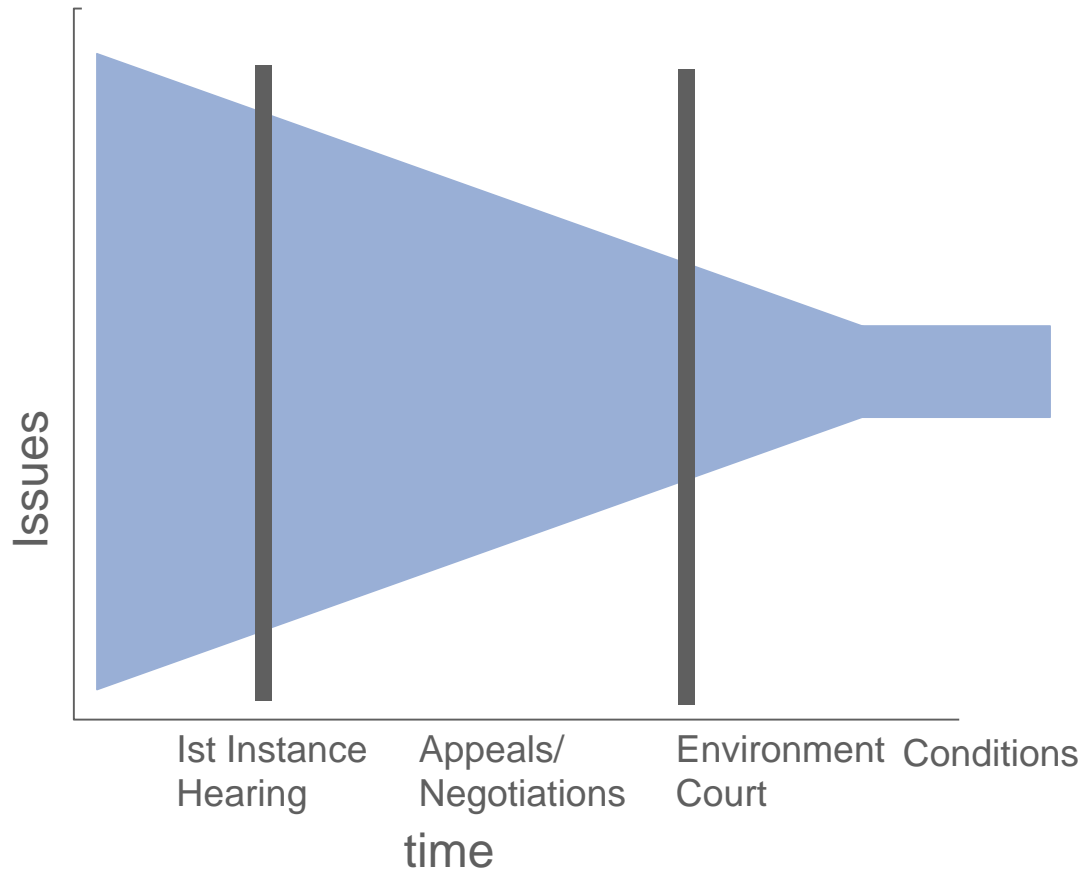
- *Improve timeframes*
- *Provide a level of certainty – procurement processes*
- *Cross boundary consistencies*



Amelia Linzey

THE PLANNERS ROLE

How does this differ from the conventional consenting process?



Manage the logistics...



- *KNOW YOUR DOCUMENTS AND YOUR TEAM!*
- *Plan early and be ready to be the 'hub' of the experts information*
- *Integration of design, planning and legal teams*
- *Structured review process*
- *Cut-Off dates for design and designation*

Manage the logistics...



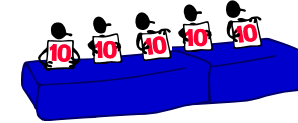
- *Think of new and speedy ways for document transfer*
- *Printing and distribution can represent 10% of your programme!*
- *Importance of technology*
 - *Website (Ebooks and pdfs)*
 - *iPads for document records*
 - *Visual aids – flythrough, visualisations, process schematics*

Getting the Conditions Right...



- *Conditions will establish the ‘box’ which the construction team can work within*
- *Important to manage this for both risks and opportunities*
 - *Liaison with technical and client team to confirm acceptability of conditions*
 - *Ability to scope the engineering, cost and planning implications of conditions as the process progresses*

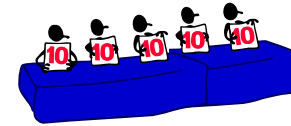
Who are the decision makers?



- *Conventional consenting process*
 - *Local Authority or Requiring Authority*
 - *Local knowledge and ability to engage directly with applicant and submitters*
 - *Question of independence, consistency, resources*

- *National Consenting process*
 - *Independent decision maker BUT*
 - *No ability to directly engage with stakeholders except in hearing*
 - *No certainty that agreed outcomes between parties would be taken through by Board/ Environment Court*

Some other Lessons learnt



- *No guarantee agreements made prior to hearing will be carried through to decision report*
- *No time once in the process for design solutions – need to have done the work before lodgement*
- *Local Authority still has a significant role in process (seen as community advocate) but need to be up skilled again as compliance officers post the process*
- *Emphasis on social (vs. environmental / technical issues)*