



NZUAG

Utilities in Roads

Update for RCA Forum
4 December 2009

What's been happening

- The Infrastructure Bill has been introduced to the House and gone through the select committee process
- It is likely the legislative process will not be as short and sharp as expected from position on order paper for reporting back
- MED discussion paper on facilitating Broadband has been out and submissions are closed – see MED website

RCA Forum Involvement

- The uptake of the Minister's approved Code is still a requirement of the proposed legislation (almost 50% are already using draft)
- Need to consider how to spread information into all parts of RCA organisations e.g. transport and resource planners, waters will be treated comparatively
- Need to support any RCA that may struggle with the uptake – is guidance on implementation wanted?

Code Process to Date

- Handbook started process but only partially successful – major issues co-ordination and data accuracy
- Industry consideration of way ahead and Government dissatisfaction lead to Cabinet paper
- More comprehensive Code required that would meet both industry's and Government's aspirations
- General participation and funding to make this happen

Development Process for Code

- Late change to Bill means that “consultation” starts when Act becomes law
- Carry on with review so that Code is camera ready once formal consultation period starts (some people have already commented)
- Hiatus with new Act and no lead-in implementation period once Code approved – interim arrangements
- What form should the consultation take (need to reach “affected parties”)?

Funding

- NZUAG will need to repeat formal consultation on draft Code to meet legislative requirement – unexpected cost not budgeted for
- Complete as two-step process with review followed by formal consultation with as many identified “affected parties” as possible
- Forum discussion on format, participation and representation
- Do LA Forum members want representation through LGNZ, or direct and separate?