

NZ GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (GI) EXAMINATION CHECKSHEET

Application information (reg 7) and formalities

Вох										
Reference Number										
1	GI Number:	GI Naı	me:							
	68	WAIT	AKI V	ALLEY N	NOR	TH OT	AGO/ WA	IATI	(I VALLEY	
2	New Zealand GI	⊠ Ye	25					No		
	correctly selected									
	(cf foreign)									
3	Goods GI for	⊠ w	'ine					☐ Spirit		
•									2 (/)	
4	GI correct?			Ye	S		No		Comment(s):	
5	Applicant/ Agent de	tails	\boxtimes	Ye	S		No		Comment(s):	
	correct	_							- ()	
6	Wine or spirit correct	tly	\boxtimes	Ye	S		No		Comment(s):	
	stated]				
7	Geographical co-ord		\boxtimes	Ye	S		No		Comment(s):	
	relate to the place o									
	geographical origin t	.0								
	which the GI relates								- ()	
8	Description of Condi	tions		Yes		No	⊠ N	IA	Comment(s):	
	provided									



Additional Information required before Acceptance (reg 8(1))

9	Explanation of	\boxtimes	Yes	No	Comment(s):
	characteristic essentially				
	attributable to the GI				
					- / \
10	Evidence of characteristic	\boxtimes	Yes	No	Comment(s):
10	Evidence of characteristic essentially attributable		Yes	No	Comment(s):

Examination

11	GI identical to	Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	registered GI				
	(s10)				
12	GI identical to	Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	customary				
	name of				
	grape variety				
	(s11)				
13	GI identical to	Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	common name				
	for wine or spirit				
	(s12)				
14	GI use or	Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	registration				
	likely to be				
	offensive				
	(s13A)				
15	GI identical to	Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	trade mark for				
	identical goods or				
	services				



	(s14)					
16	GI identical to		Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	trade mark for					
	similar goods or					
	services					
	(s15)					
17	GI similar to		Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	trade mark for					
	identical goods or					
	services					
	(s16)					
18	GI similar to		Yes	\boxtimes	No	Comment(s):
	trade mark for					
	similar goods or					
	services					
	(s17)					
19	Conditions of use	□Ye	es]No	\boxtimes NA	Comment(s):
	Entered					
	(s41)					

Reference Searches

20	Acsepto searches	\boxtimes	Yes	No	Comment(s):
	saved				
	to MAKO				
21	Internet searches	\boxtimes	Yes	No	Comment(s):
	saved				
	to MAKO				



Evidence

22	Statutory declaration/ affidavit	\boxtimes	Yes	No	Comment(s):
	complies with				
	s9 of Oaths and Declarations				
	Act 1957				
	(for statutory declarations)				
	or the High Court Rules				
	(for affidavits)				

Quality, reputation or other characteristic

The Applicant should explain and provide evidence of the quality, reputation or other characteristic of the wine or spirit that is attributable to the GI (reg 8(1)).

The explanation and evidence should show how the specific characteristic(s) of the wine and/or spirit are linked to features (whether natural or human) within the geographic area.

The below template includes headings that reflect the type of information that IPONZ typically expects to receive as part of an application (reg 8(2)).

History and background

The quality, reputation and other characteristics of wine or spirits from a particular area will often be linked to the founding and development of the area for wine or spirit production. Background may also include a description of the history relating to the word that indicates the area as a GI.

been enhanced by the proximity of the region to the major tourist centres of Christchurch and Queenstown. The section also states that due to its success in producing award-winning wines, Waitaki Valley now sits as a region in its own right.	producing award-winning wines, Waitaki Valley now sits as a region in its	of ess in
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The Waitaki Valley is situated in North Otago on the eastern side of the South Island of New Zealand following the Waitaki River roughly along the 45th parallel south. The region spreads from the general focation of Duritroon approximately 45 km from the river mouth and stretches some 45 km inland to the settlement of Otematata.

The Wall ARI VALLET SCHOOL TAGE FOR LOSING PROPERTY SCHOOL (Nichelyne et of 1985) and speculated by several school (Nichelyne et of 1985) and speculated by several Cartiral Chago who inchestry problems such as Alan Brady of Gilaboton Valley Wireles and Rolf. Mills of Rippon Vicenzard in Wireles, the fill remained rolatively undershipped in a wirelessed world several ventures began in the late 1990s.

Dunedin entrepreneur the late Howard Patterson headed up a development company in 1999 to establish vineyards firstly at Doctors Creek and then in the Oteksieke river valley, particularly a development known as Waltaki Valley Estates along Grant's Road. They also drew in interest from Drs. John Forcest, a Macthorough winegrower, who made the first Waltaki Pinot Noir in 2004 from grapes planted by the Patterson developers in 2001.

The applicant formed their association in 2005 and currently has a small but dedicated membership of growers. Wines from these vineyards began to see the market in the mid-2000's and have been gradually gaining a local and international reputation for their quality, style and individuality. Pinot Noir in particular has become the flagship of the valley with several producers, Ostler, Valli, Forrest and Pasquale winning numerous awards in New Zealand and international wine competitions such as the International Wine Challenges (IWC) in London and Shanghai. The GI now has its own class and trophy in the International Wine Competition and other competitions. Given the initial success (and in some cases failure) of producers the valley now sits as a region in its own right, nestled as it is on the northern boundary of Otago it is entirely within the historical provincial boundary of Otago.

Geographical features in the area

Geographical features may include general topography, elevation, natural features that provide shelter or that alter wind direction, ridges, valleys, plains, underground waterways and water tables, proximity to the coast or other bodies of water, slope, aspect and accessibility.

24 Comment(s):

The declarant states that the most readily identifiable geographical feature of the GI is the Oligocene limestones that are linked to high quality wine production. Calcareous soils are considered to contribute positively to the sensory characteristics of wine. For example, the GI white wines grown on limestone are sometimes considered to have a "mineral" character.



The geography and soil composition of the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI contributes to the distinctive sensory characteristics of wines, affecting factors such as exposure to sunlight, drainage, water availability, microbial population, root penetration and nutrient uptake of the vines. These elements affect vine growth and the ripening of fruit and are associated with particular viticultural aptitudes and sensory characteristics both across the GI as a whole and between different parts of the GI.

Probably the most readily identifiable feature of the Waitaki Valley North Otago is its underlying geographical structure. It was the Oligoscene limestones, particularly of the Waitakian and Duntagonian classes that draw winegawers to this region. The formation of the limestones in the Waitaki Valley NORTH OTAGO SI are generally of marine origin for are significantly vourser in Ceological technic than dividuopean colleagues. Similar in age to the Te Apre Limestone tacks in the Southern Hawke's Bay these soils are richly fossiliferous containing mainly shallow water species of brachlopods but also significant deposits of large marine mammal remains such as the ancient dolphin Waipatia Maraewhenua as well as remains of terrestrial species such as Moa, Kiwi and Weka.

Soil composition in the area

Soil composition in the area may include the soil type or types (such as sandy, clay, silt or loamy soils), and the presence of particular rock (such as gravel, schist or slate). The characteristics of the soil such as its temperature, pH, drainage, salinity and nutrient/mineral profile may also be relevant.

25 Comment(s):

Limestone characterises the nature of the soil in the GI, and the white wines grown on limestone are sometimes considered to have a "mineral" character. There are other soil types however such as alluvial greywacke gravels, and some soils take on more micaceous schist. The availability of these other suitable soil types adds variety and complexity to the wine styles produced within the GI.



The relationship between calcareous soils and wine quality is not easy to define but limestone has been strongly associated with high quality wine production. This is at least in part for reasons to do with water availability for the vine, but calcareous soils are considered to contribute positively to the

types found. Significant areas of alluvial greywacke gravels are concentrated close to the main Waitaki River and its tributaries, these soils are often overlain with a mixture of alluvial river silts and wind-blown loess of varying depths. As the valley progresses west toward the lakes of Waitaki, Aviemore and Berimore the soils take on more micaceous schist as the Waitaki river has cut through various strata and exposed the metamorphic parent material of the Southern Alps. The availability of these other suitable soil types adds variety and complexity to the wine styles produced within the GI.

Climate in the area

Applicants may like to include relevant climate data from the geographical area such as rainfall, temperature, prevailing winds and hours of sunshine. Ideally, such evidence should comprise or be supported by research data from a reputable institution.

26 Comment(s):

The climate of the GI is strongly influenced by the maritime influence of the South Pacific. The prevailing wind is easterly which exerts a cooling influence on the GI. It is this coolness that has been identified by several international commentators as a key contributor to the GI's wines, Pinot Noir in particular.

The climate of the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI is one of the primary determinants of the growth and ripening of the grapes grown within the GI, which in turn contributes to distinctive sensory



attributes in the wine produced in the GI. It affects the development of fruit, the duration of ripening and the timing of harvest, as well as impacting upon fruit quality and vine health.

The climate of the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI is strongly influenced by the maritime influence of the South Pacific. Being situated in the east coast of the South Island with the large inland McKenzie basin acting as a venturi the prevailing wind is easterly which exerts a cooling effect on the GI. It is this coolness that has been identified by several international commentators (Kramer, 2013) as a key contributor to the GI's wines, Pinot Noir in particular.

Even though it sits within the same province as its sibling region Central Otago and occupies the same latitude (45'S) the GI exhibits quite different climatological characteristics. The region is not a continental as "Central" in that the mean annual temperature range is lower, meaning the difference between mean summer and mean winter temperatures is closer.

This moderation effect caused by the region's proximity to the South Pacific Ocean is seen as a key contributor to the regional wine style. While it desprit get as but in order amount so Central Game is also in each summer as Central Game is also remain significant of the late autumn, going it eighticently different conditions in article to their yappers, Several proposers in the region log. Roman & fally this context of the region and claim this effect a significant differentiating factor in their wines. It also has a much lower first risk than-central, particularly in early spring and in late autumn. The most successful vineyards within the GLAC amplify some form of frost protection to mitigate the risk.

Methods of producing wines and spirits

Human factors such as viticulture, winemaking or spirit-making practices may also be relevant. These factors are likely to be linked closely to natural factors such as steep, inaccessible terrain which can mean that less mechanisation is feasible. This in turn may mean that the wines or spirits from that area must be premium goods that are sold at a high price point in order to be profitable.

27 Comment(s):

For reasons of quality and due to the relative isolation of the region, there is no mechanical harvesting within the GI, with all harvesting carried out by hand. Due to low rainfall some supplementary irrigation is given to the vines. In order to ensure that grapes are of the highest quality within the GI, and as a result of the maritime climate yields are typically restricted to between 2.5 and 6 tonnes per hectare for red grape varieties and 4 to 7 tonnes per hectare for white grape varieties. Wines are made in small batches, often from single vineyards or



vineyards owned by the winery.

Given the lack of winemaking infrastructure in the GI, most fruit is transported out of the region for vinification.

In most cases, premium winemaking techniques are used.

Grape growers and winemakers within the GI have a strong commitment to sustainable winegrowing, with most participating in Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand or organic certification.

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Gi are as follows:

- For reasons of quality and due to the relative isolation of the region, there is no mechanical
 harvesting within the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GL. Instead, all harvesting is carried out by
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- Dute (in the few entral) and minimally even sincerholding expects) of some of the some value of the some of t
- OTAGO GI growing environment and as a result of the maritime climate yields are typically restricted to between 2.5 and 6 tonnes per hectare for red grape varieties and 4 to 7 tonnes per hectare for white grape varieties.
- Wines are made in small batches, often predominantly from single vineyards or vineyards owned by the winery.
- Given the relative lack of winemaking infrastructure in the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI
 most fruit is transported out of the region for vinification. In some cases, wines are made &/or
 bottled in the GI.



- Red wines, particularly Pinot Noir, from the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI are slowly
 gathering a reputation within the International wine community as having unique sensory
 characteristics that exist not a consequence of winemaking technique but from the underlying
 climatology & geology.
- In most cases premium winemaking techniques are employed such as cool pre-fermentation
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- Winemakers generally agree that even though the same or similar winemaking techniques are employed the resultant wines are distinctive, recognisable and original in their aroms and flavour profile and that these characteristics are as a result of the unique growing conditions (site, climate, cultivar & culture) from within the GI.
- These characteristics are observed to be significantly different to other regions within New Zealand which forms the basis on which this application is being made.
- Grape growers and winemakers within the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI have a strong commitment to sustainable winegrowing, with most participating in Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand or organic certification.
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Quality

The qualities of a wine or spirit from a particular area may include its aroma, flavour profile, sweetness, acidity, tannin, fruit, colour, structure, body, texture and viscosity, alcohol by volume, cellaring potential, typicity, signature characteristics, and varietals.

28 Comment(s):

- The Declarant's evidence includes descriptions of the sensory attributes typically associated with wines from the Waitaki Valley North Otago GI. However, as this information has been provided by a person other than the declarant (namely Master of Wine Emma Jenkins) and is essentially hearsay, I am placing a low weighting on this information (pages 10-11)
- That said information about quality attributes of the wines from the GI has also been provided elsewhere in the submitted evidence –See Boxes 25 and 26



Sensory attributes

Master of Wine, Emma Jenkins, has provided the following descriptions of the sensory attributes typically associated with wines from the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI.

Pinot Noir

The dominant, and only red variety of the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI. The GI's short, warm summers and long cool dry autumns with notable diurnal shifts give its Pinot Noir an aromatically intense, fine-bodied, varietally pure character with notable but typically balanced acidity. The long growing season and large diurnal shifts enhance varietal character and aromatic intensity and the GI's wines are generally very perfumed with defined Pinot Noir characters of red cherry, raspberry, strawberry, wild herbs and spice. The long, cool, usually stable growing season allows for good flavour development and tannin maturation, though the overall cool climate and moderate sunshine hours means the wines are typically quite delicate in style with fresh acidity. Wines are typically vinified using

Wines from the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI are typically positioned at the "ultra-premium" end of the wine market, defined as wines priced between US\$15 – US\$50² (NZ\$22 – 73) per bottle. The mean retail price of wines bearing the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI is NZ\$ 35 per bottle. The range of retail prices is between NZ\$20 and NZ\$73 per bottle, and the median price is NZ\$31.50 per bottle. No products bearing the WAITABI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO SI on the retail priority are priced.

selow NZ\$20 per bottle.

Reputation

Where relevant, applicants should provide evidence that demonstrates the extent of the reputation of the wines or spirits from the relevant geographical area. This may include, for example:

- Evidence that wines or spirits are sold and/or promoted by reference to the GI.
- Statements from chambers of commerce and industry or other trade and professional associations that the wine or spirit has a reputation that is essentially attributable to its origin.
- Evidence that the GI influences consumer purchasing decisions.
- Evidence of tourism linked specifically to the wines or spirits from the relevant area, such as vineyard or distillery tours.
- Sales figures, export figures and/or market share (may be provided on a confidential basis).
- Marketing spend (may be provided on a confidential basis) and marketing activities such as advertising, tastings and other promotional events.
- References to the GI in books, articles, blogs, social media, websites and menus from restaurants and bars.



• Evidence of national and international awards won by wines and/or spirits from the relevant geographical area.

29 | Comment(s):

Do not consider the evidence presented shows that the name WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO is recognised as a geographical indication in relation to wine.

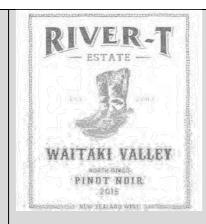
We consider the evidence predominantly shows use of the name WAITAKI VALLEY as a geographical indication, rather than the geographical indication sought.

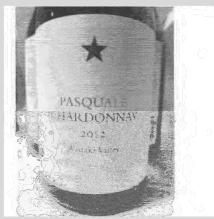
In the instances where the longer name WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO is used, the WAITAKI VALLEY GI is predominantly separated from the NORTH OTAGO GI by way of another element such as a full stop (such as on the Ostler brand, and on the John Forrest Collection brand wine label shown below), or appears on different levels and sizes (such as on the Dragon Bones and River-T Estate brand wine labels shown below), or do not appear together at all (on the Pasquale brand wine label shown below).





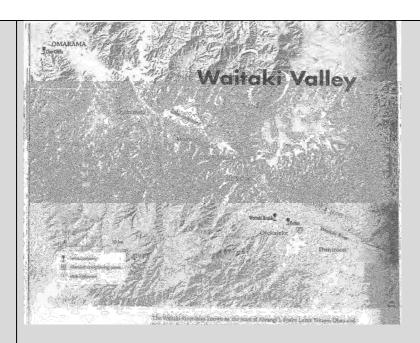






Moreover, the excerpt from The Wine Atlas of New Zealand(shown below) references "Waitaki Valley" as a wine sub-region within the section concerning wine regions of Central and North Otago, rather than "Waitaki Valley North Otago".





The submissions state that the NZ government has formally recognised the shorter version of the GI name "Waitaki Valley" to facilitate exports, and that the use of the shorter version shows that the GI WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO is already recognised by the New Zealand government and the governments of other countries, but no evidence has been provided in support of this view.

Note the applicant also states that only "more recently" have the majority of producers have come to prefer the longer name WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO as a geographical indicator, as it serves to clarify that the GI refers to the southern (Otago) side of the Waitaki Valley and distinguish it from the earlier Waitaki Valley GI. The applicant goes on to state that some producers have continued to maintain use of the shorter version of the GI name "Waitaki Valley".

The lack of continuous use of the GI name claimed for WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO, creates uncertainty as to whether the reputation of the GI can be attributed to the shorter or longer version of the GI name.

Note the applicant claims that WAITAKI VALLEY has been used as a GI on 113,929 litres of export wine from the vintages 2006-2017, and this equates to 151,905 750ml bottles or 12,658 x 9L cases of wine available for sale on the international market bearing the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI over a 10 year period. The sales figures are



relatively low compared to the sales of wines related to other GIs (see GI number 1016 NORTH CANTERBURY). Also uncertain as to what proportion of the sales figures can be attributed to the shorter name WAITAKI VALLEY and the longer name WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO.

In summary, we consider the evidence presented is not sufficient to show that the GI WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO has attained a reputation as a GI. We consider the evidence points towards the use of WAITAKI VALLEY on its own as a geographical indicator, rather than the longer name WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO. When used in the longer form WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO, we consider consumers would view Waitaki Valley as a sub-region within another region (North Otago) rather than referring to a single region.

According to key New Zealand wine writer Bob Campbell on average, wines bearing the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI scored 89 points on the 100 point scale³, in which scores of between 85 and 89 points are considered: Very good: a wine with special qualities.⁴ 30% of WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI wines are scored at an average of more than 90 points on the 100 point scale: Outstanding: a wine of superior character and style. Average scores in this range demonstrate that Waitaki North Otago GI wines are perceived in the market as being of ultra-premium or higher quality levels.

In addition to this several key producers have won gold medals and trophies in significant national and international wine competitions such as the Air New Zealand Wine Awards, New Zealand Easter Show and the International Wine (and Spirit) Challenges in London, Shanghai and Hong Kong.

While production is not large and export quantities are comparatively low, export statistics show that Waitaki Valley has been used as a GI on 113,929 litres of export wine from the vintages 2006-2017. This equator is 351,005 × 750 mL battles or 17,658 × 8L and of the state of

Producers within the WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI also participate in international marketing events and incoming visitor programmes and events organised through NZW. These frequently feature regional overview tastings and education programmes including WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO GI wines as well as participation from producers within the GI. These



White up until this point this developing region has seen each pioneering producer responsible for its own sales and marketing programmes. In 2012 the WVWA organised and conducted the inaugural Waitaki Wine Week in which 9 producers the Waitaki Valley travelled to Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Queenstown to promote the region's distinctive wines. The region continues to self-fund its own marketing initiatives at events such as the Whitestone Waitaki Wine & Food Festival held each year in the regional principal town of Oamaru. More initiatives are in the planning.

Supplementary Evidence

Applicant has provided further evidence which supports WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO as a variant GI name for use on wine goods (as stated in the stat dec of 24 July 2017)

2. Historical use of the typographical variants of WAITAKI VALLEY CENTRAL OTAGO

To date, because there has not been a formal regime in New Zealand for the registration of wine region names, there has been no need for the winegrowers of our region to standardise on any typographical presentation of our region name. The evidence shows that the one wine region is variously referred to using either the two-word or four-word variant, and in many cases the two component halves of the four-word variant "Waitaki Valley" and "North Otago" are visually separated with a typographical element.

• Declarant states that it is common for a GI name or GI name variant to be composed of two elements with a separator 9 (page 3)









Other relevant information:

30 Comment(s):

OMAR List

The appended EU Omar list for 2009 refers to WAITAKI VALLEY as a GI rather than WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO, which supports our view that WAITAKI VALLEY is the GI that has acquired recognition rather than WAITAKI VALLEY NORTH OTAGO.

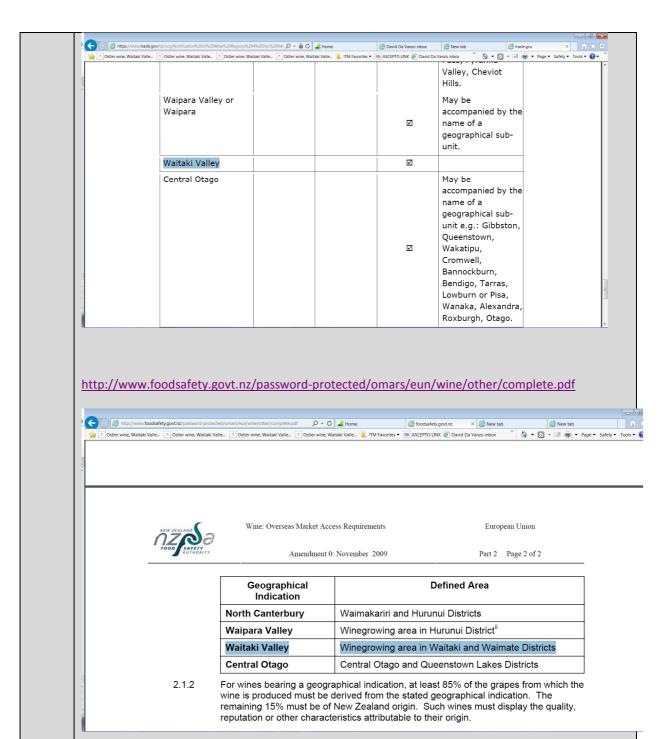
World Wine Trade Group (WWTG)

The appended list indicates that the Waitaki Valley GI is a recognised wine region of New Zealand rather than Waitaki Valley North Otago GI.

https://www.trade.gov/td/ocg/Notification%20of%20Wine%20Regions%204%203(e)%20New%20Zealand.pdf

https://www.trade.gov/td/ocg/protocol.htm







31	Examiner is satisfied that the Applicant has provided sufficient explanation and evidence of: the quality, reputation or other characteristic of the wine or spirit that is essentially attributable to the GI		Yes	No
32	Recommend for Acceptance?	\boxtimes	Yes	No

This Summary may not explicitly refer to every matter that has been considered by the Examiner