



APPENDIX H

Consultation Summary



Appendix H

Consultation Record

Prepared for

AFFCO NZ Limited

Prepared by

L W E
Environmental
I m p a c t

March 2015

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Appendix H Consultation Record

AFFCO NZ Limited

This report has been prepared for AFFCO NZ Limited by Lowe Environmental Impact (LEI). No liability is accepted by this company or any employee or sub-consultant of this company with respect to its use by any other parties.

Quality Assurance Statement		
Task	Responsibility	Signature
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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document provides the “paper trail” of AFFCO NZ, Manawatu (ANZ) consultation with involved and interested parties in the recent development of its applications for the re-consenting of discharges from its Feilding meat processing plant.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

AFFCO NZ, Manawatu ("ANZ") operates a beef processing plant on the outskirts of Feilding township. As part of the operation meatworks effluent ("MWE") is produced. The MWE is treated and then discharged to the environment, specifically to adjacent land and to the Oroua River. There is also seepage from the wastewater treatment ponds to shallow groundwater. The discharge of MWE must be conducted in a manner that results in no effects that are unacceptable to the receiving environment. There is also proposed to be a new river discharge structure combined with a fish-passable bed level control structure installed at the confluence of the Otoku Stream with the Oroua River. This combined structure must be installed and maintained in a manner that does not compromise flood control requirements. Resource consents from Horizons Regional Council ("HRC") are under application, to authorise these activities.

ANZ has engaged Lowe Environmental Impact ("LEI") to assist with resource consent applications. A requisite part of the consenting process is consultation with interested and potentially affected parties, with the purpose of identifying and resolving any possible conflicts before consent applications are lodged, in preference to waiting for the consenting process itself to resolve them.

2.2 Scope

This report lists in chronological order the records of meetings and other communications between ANZ and the parties with whom consultation has taken place. It forms Appendix H to the Assessment of Environmental Effects ("AEE") to be lodged with HRC as part of the application for the required resource consents.

The report covers:

- Consultation with Iwi;
- Consultation with Neighbours and Nearby Bore Users; and
- Consultation with Statutory Bodies.

3 CONSULTATION WITH IWI

There has been extended consultation between ANZ Plant Manger Ann Nuku ("AN") and Mr Dennis Emery, ("DE") project manager with Taiao Raukawa Environmental Trust, based within Ngati Raukawa / Ngati Kauwhata Iwi. A summary of points of contact is tabulated below.

Number	When	What
1	25 July 2010	E-mail, DE to AN, asking to meet to discuss Oroua River discharge.
2	27 July 2010	E-mail, AN to DE, confirming meeting for 29 July 2010.
3	29 July 2010	Meeting, AN with DE.
4	10 August 2010	E-mail, DE to AN, acknowledging meeting and that ANZ and Iwi would work together on Oroua River discharge issues.
5	31 May 2011	Hui with AN and Ngati Kauwhata discussion discharge issues.
6	2 June 2011	E-mail DE to AN acknowledging hui attendance and providing Action Plan.
7	7 Oct 2012	E-mail DE to AN, setting up field inspection for 10 Oct.
8	10 Oct 2012	Site visit with Iwi delegation, discussions on Otoku Stream enhancement project.
9	11 Oct 2012	E-mail DE to AN, acknowledging site visit and proposing way forward for Otoku Stream project.
10	10 Feb 2013	Site visit to AFFCO by Iwi group.
11	13 Feb 2013	E-mail DE to AN, acknowledging site visit and noting buzz of enthusiasm among members for the Otoku Stream project.
12	April 2013	Draft Memorandum of Partnership between Ngati Kauwhata and ANZ for mutual assistance in a range of endeavours.
13	23 April 2013	Meeting, AN with Ngati Kauwhata, discussing resource consenting and stream enhancement project.
14	3 May 2013	Letter DE to AN, acknowledging 23 April meeting and transactions.
15	14 May 2013	E-mail DE to AN, summarising results of recent discussions.
16	8 Jan 2015	Meeting, DE and DoC reps with AN, discussed catchment care group and progress with resource consenting.
17	9 Jan 2015	Meeting with Oroua Catchment Care Group, including Iwi representation, discussing AFFCO consent application executive summary (amongst other matters.)

4 CONSULTATION WITH NEIGHBOURS AND NEARBY BORE USERS

4.1 Letter to Neighbours, 16 June 2014

16 June 2014

Dear Neighbour

AFFCO MANAWATU RESOURCE CONSENTING

AFFCO Manawatu are in the process of renewing resource consents for discharges from their plant. This letter is to inform you of the process we are going through and invite you to a meeting to discuss what is proposed in more detail.

AFFCO Manawatu require resource consents (permits) from to Horizons Regional Council (HRC) to allow discharges as part of their operation. This includes approval for the following activities:

- Irrigation of wastewater to land;
- Discharge of wastewater to the river (during high flows);
- Discharge of wastewater from the ponds to ground via leakage;
- Discharge of stormwater; and
- Discharge of cooling and water treatment backwash water.

All of these consents are a continuation of the existing operation, with no new discharges proposed. A number of these consents are relatively minor and will be processed by HRC relatively quickly. Some will require greater effort and potentially need further discussions with adjacent property owners such as yourselves.

We are proposing to have an evening meeting to discuss these applications and would like to invite you so we can explain what we are doing and answer any questions you may have. This meeting will be at **5.30 pm on Tuesday 17th of June** 2014 at the plant.

At this meeting we will take the opportunity to discuss some recent work that has involved monitoring groundwater. We are undertaking a programme to ascertain what impact we are having on shallow groundwater. This has involved measuring the quality of groundwater and determining if we are having an impact on it.

If you need any further information or would like to discuss what we are doing further, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Jenny Hazeleger-Randall at our Feilding plant.

Yours faithfully,

Ann Nuku,
Plant Manager

4.2 Letter to Neighbours, 31 July 2014

31 July 2014

«Name_1» «Name_2»

«Add_1»

«Add_2_»

Dear «Name_1»

AFFCO MANAWATU RESOURCE CONSENTING – 2nd UPDATE

AFFCO Manawatu are continuing to process the renewal of their resource consents for discharges from their plant. This letter is to invite you to a second meeting at the AFFCO plant. This is to review what was presented at the last meeting particularly as a number of neighbours could not attend. We will provide an update of where the process has got to and respond to any concerns and queries.

This may be the first contact from AFFCO Manawatu that some property owners have received. This is because we are now looking to discuss our plans with all neighbours and not just those who allow us to sample their groundwater. Following is an introduction for those who have not received previous communications:

AFFCO Manawatu require resource consents (permits) from Horizons Regional Council (HRC) to allow discharges as part of their operation. This includes approval for the following activities:

Irrigation of wastewater to land;

- *Discharge of wastewater to the river (during high flows);*
- *Discharge of wastewater from the ponds to ground via leakage;*
- *Discharge of stormwater; and*
- *Discharge of cooling and water treatment backwash water.*

All of these consents are a continuation of the existing operation, with no new discharges proposed. A number of these consents are relatively minor and will be processed by HRC relatively quickly. Some will require greater effort and potentially need further discussions with adjacent property owners such as yourselves.

The updates that are to be presented will include a summary of resource consents that have been made and a discussion about other consents requiring Regional Council approval. These other consents include the operation of the irrigation area and river discharge. We will also discuss groundwater investigations and monitoring to date.

We are proposing to have a late afternoon meeting to look at the wastewater treatment plant followed by a sit down discussion to summarise where things are at, discuss the plans and answer any questions. The meeting will be on **Thursday 14th of August** 2014 with the walk around the treatment plant starting at **4:00 pm** (please meet at reception) to be followed by a sit down discussions at **5:30 pm**. We will be providing light refreshments and nibbles.

If you need any further information or would like to discuss what we are doing further, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Jenny Hazeleger-Randall at our Feilding plant.

Yours faithfully,

Ann Nuku
Randall
Plant Manager
Affco Manawatu
Manawatu
021 342 625

Jenny Hazeleger
Compliance Manager
Affco
021 476 974

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4.3 Minutes of Meeting, 14 August 2014

Minutes

Who:

Jon and Dianne de Wiele, Debbie Smith, Gerald Smith, Glen Finlayson, Bryan Guy, Bill Williams, Con Heinold, Ross Small, Steve Athinson, Raewyn and Barry Beilby, Keith Rose, Ann Nuku – Plant Manager (AFFCO), Jenny Hazeleger-Randall – Compliance Manager (AFFCO), Larry O'Fee – Services Engineer (AFFCO), Hamish Lowe – Environmental Advisor (LEI)

Where:

Affco Manawatu Limited

Date/Time: 14 August 2014, 4 pm

1. Introduction

Discussion:

Ann Nuku provided introduction and explained about the plant's operation. Intention was for everyone to go for a drive and look at recent changes, but weather was not accommodating. Watched a couple short video clips taken around treatment ponds to show the extent of recent modifications.

2. Presentation

Discussion:

Hamish Lowe gave a short presentation explaining about the consents that have been processed and those still to be processed by the Regional Council. Main outstanding consents are for discharge of wastewater to land and the river, and pond seepage. Discussed and showed additional irrigation areas that would see area increased from 75 ha to 140 ha. While this was to accommodate a small possible increase in production, it was primarily to reduce the amount applied and provide flexibility of where and when the wastewater would be irrigated. Most additional area was on the Guy property, but some areas proposed to be irrigated with wastewater would be between the plant and some neighbouring houses to south of plant. This would be at a low rate and only be for about 66 hours or 8 days per year. It was noted and pointed out that there would need to be good management. It was proposed by AFFCO that a weather station would be used to limit irrigation when wind conditions were not favourable. Several neighbours suggested that if there was so much spare land then the AFFCO land could be left out of the wastewater irrigation system completely.

3. General Discussion

The reasons for the amount of wastewater to be applied to land were explained, including avoiding groundwater contaminations. Recent groundwater monitoring was discussed and it was indicated that monitoring showed no groundwater contamination. Monitoring has tested bores within the existing irrigation area and existing neighbouring bores. There is over 12 months of neighbouring bore testing and this can be shared if needed.

Hamish explained the consenting process, and indicated that draft applications would be lodged with the Regional Council soon.

4. Invitation for Comment

Ann and Hamish invited comment on what was proposed so that views and thoughts could be incorporated into the consent application. This might mean that modifications need to be made to the timing of any irrigation.

5. Next meeting

It was decided to have a further meeting before final consents were lodged and allow discussion on groundwater impacts, odours and how management can be kept tight so new managers neglect previous undertakings/promises. Possible dates were 4th or 11th of September. 4 pm was considered to be good time. Ann indicated that others not present should be invited as may have not been able to contact all neighbours. Requested that if talking to other neighbours, invite them along.

4.4 Letter to Neighbours, 10 September 2014

10 September 2014

Dear Property Owner,

AFFCO MANAWATU RESOURCE CONSENTING – 3rd UPDATE

AFFCO Manawatu are continuing to process the renewal of their resource consents for discharges from their plant. At the second meeting held at the AFFCO plant some good discussions began about matters of concern to the neighbouring properties particularly related to groundwater and odour. This letter is to invite you to a third meeting to further those discussions.

At the previous meeting the suggestion was that some neighbours may have not been contacted. Please feel you can invite neighbours who are interested in the matters being discussed. Below is the introduction about the consents being sought by AFFCO as outlined in previous letters but may be useful when inviting others:

AFFCO Manawatu require resource consents (permits) from Horizons Regional Council (HRC) to allow discharges as part of their operation. This includes approval for the following activities:

- * Irrigation of wastewater to land;*
- * Discharge of wastewater to the river (during high flows);*
- * Discharge of wastewater from the ponds to ground via leakage;*
- * Discharge of stormwater; and*
- * Discharge of cooling and water treatment backwash water.*

All of these consents are a continuation of the existing operation, with no new discharges proposed. A number of these consents are relatively minor and will be processed by HRC relatively quickly. Some will require greater effort and potentially need further discussions with adjacent property owners such as yourselves.

The first two meetings explained the consenting process that is required for AFFCO Manawatu. Other areas presented and discussed included the land application of wastewater, the areas that could be used for the land application and how this irrigation to land is managed; also the discharge of treated wastewater to the Oroua River. The groundwater monitoring programme that has been carried out to date has also been explained.

This third meeting will further explain the groundwater monitoring and will also present information about odour. The groundwater monitoring programme now has six occasions of sampling that can provide some information about what is occurring. Information about potential odours and what that means for neighbours will also be presented. Both these presentations relating to the groundwater and to the potential odour will be made to provide a platform for further discussion so all persons present will have the opportunity to ensure an appropriate management structure can be established for the AFFCO plant and minimise the effects to neighbouring properties.

Attached to this letter are brief summaries about groundwater monitoring and odours. This aims to provide you with an introduction to what will be presented at the meeting so you will have time to consider any issues of concern that can then be discussed at the meeting.

The meeting will be on Thursday 11th of September 2014 and will start 4:00 pm. This time was agreed to at the last meeting as a suitable time for those that were present. We plan on having a quick look at the treatment ponds and then a sit down to discuss issues that need to be covered. The meeting is expected to be finished at 6:00pm. Can we please meet at reception.

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If you need any further information or would like to discuss what we are doing further, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Jenny Hazeleger-Randall at our Feilding plant.

Yours faithfully,

Ann Nuku,
Plant Manager

4.5 Notes on Groundwater Monitoring, September 2014

AFFCO Manawatu Limited - Groundwater Impact from Irrigation Updated September 2014

This summary outlines information regarding the impact of the AFFCO Manawatu meatworks effluent irrigation operation on groundwater.

Background

AFFCO Manawatu has undertaken a groundwater investigation around their meat processing plant over the past 14 months. This has taken place to determine if any contaminant from their wastewater treatment ponds has affected the groundwater.

An additional potential source of meatworks effluent (MWE) contaminants entering the groundwater could be from the irrigation of MWE to the dairy farm next to the plant. When wastewater is applied to land it may drain through the soil profile. Typically the contaminants in the wastewater are removed by the soil and plant system. However, if contaminants are not removed by the soil there is potential that they will reach groundwater.

Investigating Groundwater

AFFCO is attempting to determine if MWE contaminants are reaching groundwater and if there is any adverse impact on the groundwater. There are three key things to understand in order to determine if there is an effect:

- Who (e.g. groundwater users), or what (e.g. river when the groundwater enters it) is effected by the groundwater;
- What contaminants are of concern for groundwater; and
- How does groundwater move – both horizontally and vertically – under the irrigation area and the surrounding land.

There are artificial drains over most of the irrigation area which reduce the chance of contaminants travelling to the groundwater. These drains can redirect drainage to surface water. However, if groundwater is effected then it is most likely to be limited to the shallow groundwater. This is different to water in deep aquifers that is accessed from deep bores. For this reason the main investigation has examined bores with depths down to 10 m. The deep bores in the AFFCO area are often greater than 30 m, and sometimes over 100 m deep, and access different parts of the groundwater system.

The groundwater flows in a direction typically towards the coast. The exact direction is similar to surface flow with water going from areas of high groundwater elevation to a lower elevation. This may mean that the direction is not necessarily following the shape of the surface land form. This is why the groundwater flow direction required identification in this investigation. The direction of groundwater flow will help determine where potential contaminants can end up and who might be affected.

The primary elements of concern in wastewater that may impact the environment are nitrogen and phosphorus, and some pathogens (bugs). The pathogens are identified by the presence of *E. coli*. Nitrogen and phosphorus are the main elements of environmental concern affecting our waterways and an important focus for Horizons Regional Council to measure and understand. *E. coli* is equally of concern because of potential illness's from drinking water. The presence of 10 *E. coli* in a 100 mL groundwater sample indicates the water should not be used for drinking water and 100 *E. coli* per 100 mL present indicates the water should not be used for livestock drinking water.

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Groundwater Monitoring Programme

There have been two parts to the groundwater monitoring programme, as follows:

- Determine groundwater direction: A contour map of the groundwater surface that identifies the direction of groundwater movement has been produced; and
- Groundwater quality: Groundwater has been sampled from fifteen shallow bores and standpipes, and chemically analysed to determine the quality of the groundwater at each location.

The parameters measured included:

- Standing Water Level
- Temperature
- pH
- Electrical Conductivity (EC)
- Chloride
- Total Sulphide
- Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (cBOD5)
- *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*)

Nitrogen Elements:

- Total Nitrogen
- Total Ammoniacal-N
- Nitrate-N + Nitrite-N
- Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)

Phosphorus Elements:

- Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus
- Total Phosphorus

Results

Groundwater Flow Direction

Figure 1 below shows a plot of groundwater movement in the area of the AFFCO plant. The shallow groundwater flow direction can be generally described as perpendicular to the contour lines drawn on Figure 1 below. The shallow groundwater upgradient of the AFFCO plant flows towards the Oroua River and then moves parallel to the River before it begins to move away from the river.

Groundwater Chemical Analysis

The main factors that were identified from the chemical analysis are as follows:

- Higher nitrogen concentrations, compared to other sampling sites, occurred close to and within 50 m of the AFFCO wastewater treatment ponds;
- This high nitrogen concentration did not show up at bores further away from the wastewater treatment ponds;
- Nitrogen and phosphorus varied between each sampling occasion, sometimes higher results occurred compared to previous or subsequent samples;
- Phosphorus concentrations were low;
- *E. coli* numbers were low, with the exception of one site with high numbers on three out of six sampling occasions. For all other sites most were below ten *E. coli* and four samples collected over the 14 months of sampling recorded numbers above 10.

Figure 1: Shallow Groundwater Contour of AFFCO Manawatu Surrounds

In Conclusion

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The groundwater contour plot indicates that groundwater from the irrigation areas mostly flows towards the Oroua River. This suggests that groundwater users in the vicinity of the plant and irrigation areas are unlikely to be affected by any MWE contaminants that enter groundwater due to irrigation. If contaminants do enter groundwater they are likely to be discharged to the Oroua River.

The measured concentrations of contaminants at locations upgradient of the irrigation area are in some cases higher than within the irrigation area which suggests that the irrigation of MWE is not causing an increase above the background levels. This is to be expected since AFFCO the artificial drainage on the farm is likely to stop any MWE contaminants ending up in groundwater.

4.6 Notes on Odour, September 2014

AFFCO Manawatu Limited - Odour Impact from Irrigation

This summary outlines information regarding the management of odour from the irrigation of meatworks effluent (MWE) at AFFCO Manawatu.

Managing Odour – Why is it Important

Odour can be produced from a range of sources and can affect people in a range of ways. In the worst situations odours may cause people to experience sleeplessness, loss of appetite, nausea or depression. A wide range of compounds can produce odours, either singly or in combination (creating synergistic effects).

How is Odour described?

The detection of odour is a result of chemical compounds interacting with our olfactory system, that is, our sense of smell. Different people detect odours differently and may have different reactions or aversions to specific compounds.

There are a series of five factors, called the FIDOL factors, which can be used to describe how an odour is perceived and how problematic it is. When we consider the FIDOL factors the person or group affected is described as the receptor (or receptors). The FIDOL factors greatly influence the impact of a particular odour on a receptor (or receptors). The FIDOL factors are:

- F - Frequency – how often the odour is experienced;
- I - Intensity – how strong the odour is;
- D – Duration – how long each episode of odour exposure lasts;
- O – Offensiveness – how offensive the odour is to the individual receptor (this can vary greatly, depending on the receptor); and
- L – Location - where the odour is experienced.

Odours cannot be defined as typical, as this depends on the factors above, including the person smelling the odour. There are no guideline values (maximum limits) for odour in literature, as they are highly subjective and it is impossible to broadly categorise odours. Low odour levels over long periods of time can allow receptors to become sensitised to specific odours, which allow them to detect lower levels than when first subjected to the odour i.e. they get use to the smell.

The AFFCO Manawatu Neighbourhood

A meatworks has operated on the present AFFCO site for almost 100 years. Over that time the plant has been continuously modified as standards and technology have changed. This includes the elimination or management of processes which have traditionally resulted in strong odours.

The land surrounding the plant is predominantly rural in nature with dairy farming, drystock farming and rural residential living. In addition there are two commercial operations adjacent to the AFFCO plant. Between the AFFCO plant and Aorangi Road is Wallace Corporation which processes animal skins. A glasshouse flower and produce operation is located at AFFCOs Campbell Road entrance.

Sources of odour in the vicinity of the irrigation areas.

Background odours, in addition to the AFFCO irrigation operation include:

- General odours associated with keeping animals;

- Emissions from the AFFCO plant. These are described and permitted by Consent 105567 and controlled by the "AFFCO Manawatu – Air Discharge Management Plan". This includes activities around the plant and odours from the treatment ponds;
- Odours associated with the processing of animal skins at Wallace Corporation; and
- Odour associated with collection and irrigation of dairy shed effluent.

Odours from these background activities vary in their frequency and duration, but all result in odours that may be detectable, even when no AFFCO MWE irrigation is occurring.

Odour from MWE irrigation

In addition to the odours described above, there is a potential for odour from the MWE irrigation. The MWE is currently irrigated to a dairy farm to the north of the plant.

Using the FIDOL factors described above the MWE that is irrigated can be characterised as follows.

Frequency. Spray irrigation of wastewater onto pasture is undertaken when soil conditions are sufficiently dry to receive the wastewater. While irrigation could occur on any day the farmer prefers only to have it applied November to April. The frequency of application will be dependent to a large extent on the volume applied. Typically application will not exceed 300 mm per year. Assuming 12 mm is applied over a 3 hour irrigation event, there will be a total of up to 25 days of irrigation to each irrigated paddock on the dairy farm. The irrigation of AFFCO land to the south of the plant will receive less irrigation and it is expected that at 12 mm per application there will be a total of 7 days of irrigation per year.

Intensity. The intensity of the odour from the irrigation of wastewater onto the dairy farm is considered to range from weak to very weak.

Duration. Irrigation and odour generation can occur for up to 24 hours per day, however the duration can be limited by weather conditions. There will be no irrigation when wind speed exceeds 12 m/s or there is heavy rain. Other operational controls based on wind direction are possible.

Offensiveness/Character. The (hedonic) character of the odour from the irrigated effluent is the same mildly meaty smell that emanates from the aerated pond. The odour is identifiably from an abattoir, but is well dispersed by the irrigator and is typically considered to fall well short of being offensive. Avoiding anaerobic conditions in piping helps to avoid any putrid aromas.

Location. The wastewater irrigation takes place on dairy farm, to the immediate north and eastern side of the AFFCO treatment ponds. The irrigated area extends from within 60 m of the Oroua River in the north, to within 20 m of Aorangi Road in the south. There are areas to the south of the plant that will be used infrequently, but the use will be very limited.

There are two ways that odour may be generated due to irrigation of MWE. The first is the release of odorous compounds as the MWE is irrigated. The second is odour from ponding and anaerobic conditions in the soil if the irrigation is not managed well.

Odour from irrigating will be minimised by:

- Irrigating MWE which has been through the treatment process. Concentrations of odour causing compounds reduce as the wastewater is treated. As a comparison, dairy effluent is

generally irrigated untreated and it has been noted by the current dairy farmer that the MWE is significantly less odorous.

- Keeping a minimum 20 m buffer between the irrigation areas and the property boundary. The exposed nature of the irrigation areas (few shelter belts) will encourage good dispersion and mixing conditions so that odour is not detectable at the property boundary. However, additional operational controls may want to be considered when there are cool calm conditions which allow odours to waft gently across the boundary.
- A climate station will be used to stop all irrigation when wind speeds exceed 12 m/s.

Odour due to anaerobic soil conditions will be minimised by:

- Irrigating at a rate and in a manner that avoids prolonged wet conditions and ponding. The system has been designed based on soil testing which indicates the rate that soil can soak up the MWE.
- Allowing the soil to dry somewhat before returning to irrigate will assist to avoid prolonged wet conditions and the generation of odours.

In Conclusion

Odour management is an important consideration for irrigation of MWE. The environment in the vicinity of the AFFCO MWE irrigation is predominantly rural. There are a number of sources of background odours which have the potential to be at least as detectable and potentially more detectable than the irrigated MWE.

By ensuring that the MWE is of suitable quality, there is a buffer distance between the irrigation area and the property boundary and irrigation is ceased under certain climatic conditions the risk of detectable odours is reduced.

4.7 Minutes of Meeting, 11 September 2014

Minutes

Who: Jon and Dianne de Wiele, Gerald Smith, Glen Finlayson, Jen Hosking, Raewyn and Barry Beilby, Ann Nuku – Plant Manager (AFFCO), Jenny Hazeleger-Randall – Compliance Manager (AFFCO), Larry O’Fee – Services Engineer (AFFCO), Hamish Lowe – Environmental Advisor (LEI), Sian Cass (LEI)

Where: Affco Manawatu Limited

Date/Time: 11 September 2014, 4 pm

1.	Visit to Ponds
	All attendees visited the treatment pond area and the systems were described. The extent of the irrigation area was explained.
2.	Presentation
	In response to the previous meeting, Hamish Lowe explained the procedure and results from the groundwater investigation; and explained the technicalities about odour from the irrigation.
3.	General Discussion
	<p>There was a discussion about aquifers and aquatards. The potential for leaching and contamination was discussed. The reasons for poor quality water at shallow depth was explained.</p> <p>Variation in water quality was discussed as was the need to ensure bore details and depth were known to conclude the impact of discharges on groundwater. AFFCO indicated the intention to install additional dedicated monitoring bores.</p> <p>The length of time monitoring will continue was discussed. There was a good record of the existing impact and private bores would cease to be monitored unless individuals wanted ongoing monitoring. There would however be an ongoing requirement for the duration of the consent to monitor This will be part of the consent conditions and designed to monitor the effects of the irrigation.</p> <p>Gerald expressed concern that irrigation may impact on his bore as a result of a greater impact on groundwater. However AFFCO explained that a lower groundwater impact was likely from the new irrigation design as the same volume was to be spread over a greater area.</p> <p>Gerald asked how the irrigation applications would be made in accordance with the soil capabilities as explained in the presentation. Hamish explained how the soil monitoring programme would be linked to the irrigation controls. Ann indicated that the monitoring programme will include bores around the irrigation area. Gerald emphasised his bore needs to be monitored.</p> <p>What recourse private land owners would have if the groundwater did get worse was asked. It was suggested that regular meetings and water quality report could be made available. Hamish indicated that what is proposed should make things better and not worse, and as a result things should improve if anything. A number of options were identified for recourse, including alternative supplies and deeper bores.</p> <p>A number of variables to control spray drift were identified, including a requirement to cease irrigation when the wind reached a certain speed. Hamish indicated that 12 m/s was used elsewhere. This was considered too high close to properties; but might be ok on the dairy farm. This control/shut off can be revised through the development of consent conditions.</p> <p>The neighbours indicated that Company management changes over time and they are concerned about continuity of commitment long term. It was discussed that the consent could contain a requirement for regular meetings with the neighbours.</p> <p>What the Horizons One Plan requirements are was asked. After discussion, it was suggested to circulate the One Plan Rules to the neighbours, particularly the buffer distances.</p>

4.	Next meeting
	No further meetings were considered. However from the discussion above, regular neighbourhood meetings were requested.

4.8 Letter to Neighbours, 15 December 2014

15 December 2014

Dear Property Owner,

AFFCO MANAWATU RESOURCE CONSENTING

As you know, AFFCO Manawatu is in the process of renewing resource consents for discharges from its Feilding plant. This letter is to update you on progress with this.

- Groundwater samples. We have asked LEI to continue with sampling bores to look at background conditions and determine if there are any seasonal trends or changes in what we are finding. We propose another round of groundwater sampling in December and if your bore is sampled we trust that you will continue to enable on your property to ensure the full coverage of our analyses.
- Horizons Regional Council has reviewed a draft of the application document for our resource consents, and we will be making some adjustments to the application to take account of their comments. Our next step will be to prepare a set of consent conditions for Horizons to consider, but before we send them in to Horizons we want to circulate them to you for your consideration. We expect to do this early in January to be followed by another meeting with neighbours.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable Christmas.

Yours faithfully,

Ann Nuku,
Plant Manager

4.9 Minutes of Meeting, 12 February 2015

Minutes

Who: Jon and Dianne de Wiele, Raewyn and Barry Beilby, Ann Nuku – Plant Manager (AFFCO), Jenny Hazeleger-Randall – Compliance Manager (AFFCO), Larry O’Fee – Services Engineer (AFFCO), Hamish Lowe – Environmental Advisor (LEI)

Where: Affco Manawatu Limited

Date/Time: 12 February 2015, 5:30 pm

1.	Intro Discussed low attendance. Beilby’s and de Wiele’s indicated they only just received meeting notice in mail the day before. Probably didn’t help Friday before was Waitangi Day. Invites were posted and not emailed the week before. (next time any invite will be emailed)
2.	Presentation Hamish Lowe provided a summary of the groundwater monitoring to date. This included locations and typical trends. Discussed groundwater flow direction and impact of deeper vs shallower bores. A forward plan was also discussed which would see bores on AFFCO land and the irrigation area monitoring frequently and some of the neighbouring bores every six months. A summary of consents being sought was presented. When over quickly the basis and a few details of each consent. The summary is attached.
3.	General Discussion Recent odours were discussed. AN indicated the plant didn’t want odours as it could mean it had an impact on their operation. Also they routinely have international guests to see where and how their meat purchases are processed. They do not want to confront these guests with smells. AN indicated a concern with Wallace’s, especially as people often associate it with the plant. HL indicated that a summary of consultation will be included with the consent application. JdW requested they see a copy of it. Was a greed a copy would be circulated for comment. Discussion on responsiveness of AFFCO staff to complaints/issues/questions. JdW indicated previous issues around water supply. AN indicated that AFFCO needs to look forward and establish better relationships. This includes acting promptly to enquiries. General discussion on change of staff. Discussed that can really only set plan for people that are here now. Appreciated invite. Discussed timing of receiving invite and meeting date (sorry from AFFCO). AN indicated these minutes and copy of presentation would be circulated to all initially invited.
4.	Next meeting No further meetings were considered. But there could be a meeting if other neighbours requested one.

5 CONSULTATION WITH STATUTORY BODIES

5.1 Department of Conservation

An e-mail was sent to DoC on 3 March 2015 with a heads-up that the consent application was nearly ready to lodge, and that we would be providing information for comment shortly.

An e-mail was sent to DoC on 16 March 2015 with the executive summary of the AEE and a bullet pointed summary of the proposal, and an invitation to discuss the proposal, noting that there is a good deal of further information that could be provided if required.

5.2 Wellington Fish & Game Council

An e-mail was sent to Fish & Game on 3 March 2015 with a heads-up that the consent application was nearly ready to lodge, and that we would be providing information for comment shortly.

An e-mail was sent to Fish & Game on 16 March 2015 with the executive summary of the AEE and a bullet pointed summary of the proposal, and an invitation to discuss the proposal, noting that there is a good deal of further information that could be provided if required.

A response was received by e-mail from Fish & Game on 17 March 2015, acknowledging receipt of the 16 March e-mail, noting that the officer involved was out of the office but would be in touch shortly.

6 CONSULTATION WITH WIDER COMMUNITY

6.1 Oroua Catchment Care Group

Minutes of meeting, 9 January 2015, 6:30 to 7:50 pm, at AFFCO Manawatu.

Members of OCCG visit to AFFCO Site. Started with a visit to the Colyton Stream planting project and Tuna project and the AFFCO Effluent Treatment.

Return to Plant for meeting.

Present: Ann Nuku, Dennis Emery, James Stewart, Dave Stewart, Lucy Fergusson, Alistair Cole, Alison Short, Mike Hoggard, Gordon McKellar, Wiremu Te Awe Awe

Minutes: Jenna Lees

Apologies: Ozzie, Shelley, Sarah G, John R, Lauren Mc, **Moved** Alison Short **Seconded** Mike Hoggard

Minutes: Minutes of previous meeting accepted. **Moved** Dave **Seconded** Mike Hoggard

Alison – Do you want CFO regarding managing funding to speak in March? - Yes. Do we need to legalise the entity? Shall we have a special meeting to discuss?

Concert Chambers meeting - Any Questions? Great venue we should have the next public meeting there. Exclude the Cedar Room. Disabled need downstairs.

Meeting schedule (6) Dennis would like meeting to rotate throughout the group. Mount Biggs, Hiwinui & Kiwitea

(7) Summary of the HRC grants. We shouldn't rely on voluntary input. We need bulk funding to run the committee, and administration. Currently rely on getting venues for nothing and funding from Iwi for admin etc. Follow up with Richard MRLA.

Need a special meeting to discuss administration alone. NB: Funding for local entities requires reporting & auditing. Dennis Discussed Alliance Model Idea as attached (8). Feedback that if OCCG becomes a legal entity that Massey will opt out?

Options to be discussed. Need to send a brief of expectations to everyone before meeting. Alistair will circulate some information on what other groups do. Within the next three weeks.

Wiremu – General agreement that in regards clean water, we can do better. PNCC need to be accountable and we need more interest from them.

Dave – Prison is under pressure for trees. Prison cost is cheaper \$3.50 compared to \$5 per tree commercial.

(9) & (10) No Discussion.

Ann - AFFCO consent application Executive Summary (attached to agenda) timeline – May 2015. Guy Farm effluent discussion. This is need to know information.

Haynes Creek – Open Day in conjunction with Beef & Lamb environment. B&L to advertise.

Invite someone from Horizons - Lucy to organise for Special Meeting

Kiwitea next meeting. Dennis / Ann to send out dates to choose from.

6.2 Feilding Rotary Club Meeting

AFFCO Plant Manager Ann Nuku attended a meeting of Feilding Rotary Club on Thursday 19 February 2015 in Feilding. She gave a Powerpoint presentation on the operation and history of the AFFCO Manawatu plant. There was discussion on effluent management and the Otoku Stream enhancement project.



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