



AGENDA

STRATEGY & POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 14 December 2010 at 10.00am

Notice is given of a meeting of Horizons Regional Council to be held on Tuesday 14 December, 2010 at 10.00am in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council offices, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North

Business to be discussed includes:

- External Review of Horizons' Funded Old Man's Beard Control
- Submission made by the Policy Team since April 2010 and an Update on the Status of various National Policy Statements / National Environmental Standards

**RECOMMENDATIONS IN REPORTS ARE NOT
COUNCIL POLICY UNTIL ADOPTED BY COUNCIL**

NEWS EMBARGO

Items in this agenda may be subject to amendment or withdrawal at the meeting. Items are embargoed until two days before the date of the meeting.

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for further information regarding this agenda, please contact:
Julie Kennedy, 06 9522 800

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STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee of the Whole

AGENDA

14 December 2010
10.00am

- | | Pages |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Apologies | |
| 2. Public Speaking Rights
Notification to speak is required by 4pm on the working day prior to the meeting. Further information is available on www.horizons.govt.nz or by phoning 0508 800 800 | |
| 3. Late Items:
To consider, and if thought fit, to pass a resolution to permit the Committee to consider any further items which do not appear on the Order Paper of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded.

Such resolution is required to be made pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the Chairperson must advise:

(i) The reason why the item was not on the Order Paper, and
(ii) The reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting. | |
| 4. Members' Conflict of Interest
Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda. | |
| 5. External Review of Horizons' Funded Old Man's Beard Control
<i>Report No: 10-201</i>
<i>File No: PBS 3 06</i> | 1 - 4 |
| 6. Submission made by the Policy Team since April 2010 and an Update on the Status of various National Policy Statements / National Environmental Standards
<i>Report No: 10-207</i>
<i>File No: ESM 3 00</i> | 5 - 19 |
| 7. Members' Questions | |

M J McCartney
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

A Significant decision? If Yes	N
Do recommendations meet Significance Policy (contained within the LTCCP)	

Item No: 5
Date: 14/12/2010
Report No: 10-201
File No: PBS 3 06

EXTERNAL REVIEW OF HORIZONS' FUNDED OLD MAN'S BEARD CONTROL

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this item is twofold:
 - a. to provide background and context on pest plant management within the Region with a particular focus on old man's beard, and
 - b. to present to the Committee the findings of an external region-wide review of Horizons' funded old man's beard control (enclosed as a separate report for Councillors – additional copies are available on request or can be viewed on the Horizons Regional Council website).

A PowerPoint presentation and a presentation from the report authors will accompany this item. Copies of the report accompany this agenda.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

2. There is no current financial impact associated with this item.

BACKGROUND

3. There are a large number of pest plant species present throughout New Zealand (more than 300 and increasing annually). These species have a significant detrimental impact on agricultural, horticultural, forestry and biodiversity values. Pest species (animal and plant) represent the single biggest contemporary cause of the decline of biodiversity, and a major threat to primary production sectors.
4. It is logistically and financially impossible to conduct control programmes for all of the pest plant species across the Region. To protect the Region's economy and biodiversity values, pest plant control needs to be focused into areas where the most gains can be made. Horizons' Regional Pest Plant Management Strategy (RPPMS) provides this framework.
5. The RPPMS clearly identifies which pest plant species Horizons' will manage, how and where control will be implemented, and for what outcome. The Strategy includes time-bound aims and objectives. The RPPMS (which become operative in September 2007) emphasises the importance of an integrated approach towards pest plant management.
6. Old man's beard is a highly aggressive vine that establishes rapidly, particularly in forest habitats, smothering canopy trees and forming dense carpets in the understorey, replacing indigenous species and suppressing regeneration. Old man's beard causes the collapse of forest fragments and is considered one of the country's worst pest plants. The remaining forest habitat in the lowland and hill country areas of the Region is under extreme threat from old man's beard. Much of the remaining habitat in these areas is classified within the Proposed One Plan as threatened habitat. Forest fragments in and around Taihape in particular are of high ecological value due to their geographically unique species compositions and presence of several threatened plants.

7. The current infestation of old man's beard is too widespread and too dense for a Region-wide control programme to be affordable. However, Horizons has considered that the high risk and extreme detrimental impact of old man's beard justifies intervention.
8. Therefore, old man's beard is included in the RPPMS and is managed under a Containment objective. Under a Containment objective, areas within the Region are identified as a Control Area (within this area old man's beard should be controlled wherever it occurs), or as a Containment Area (within this area old man's beard should be left uncontrolled except in prioritised high value sites). The aims for old man's beard management within the RPPMS are long-term, reflecting the widespread distribution and entrenched density of the infestation throughout much of the Region, the logistical difficulty in managing the species, and the longevity of the seed bank.
9. The manner in which Horizons conducts or funds old man's beard control throughout the Region has been subject to both ongoing criticism and praise from key stakeholders. In October 2009, Councillors were taken on a field trip around the Rangitikei District to see first-hand some of the issues we face in the management of old man's beard. The Councillors were shown successful work, unsuccessful work, the high value biodiversity sites we are focussed on protecting, and some prime examples of entrenched old man's beard in the landscape.
10. The old man's beard problem is not one with a simple, or affordable answer, and the realities of not being able to tackle the problems on all fronts can be personally and organisationally difficult to accept.
11. In light of this tension, combined with the considerable expenditure (15.5% of the annual pest plant budget for this financial budget), it was considered that an external, independent review of Horizons management strategy for old man's beard was timely.
12. It is also timely to recognise that Horizons annually funds (\$85,000) the Rangitikei Environment Group (REG) to undertake control of old man's beard on primarily Rangitikei District Council land. This funding is levied via a targeted rate on property owners within Rangitikei District.
13. The review (conducted as part of Horizons' Policy Performance Monitoring programme) covered the old man's beard strategy (within the RPPMS) itself, Horizons' implementation of this strategy, outcomes achieved on the ground in relation to the objectives of the RPPMS, and the achievements of REG.
14. The outcomes of the review will place us in an informed position when the five-yearly strategy review of the RPPMS (as required by the Biosecurity Act) is undertaken.
15. The review team was asked to address (as a starting point) a number of key questions, identify areas of concern and provide recommendations for improved management of old man's beard in the Region, and provide comment where possible on improvements to the monitoring programme.

COMMENT

16. The review provided a detailed appraisal of all aspects of the Horizons' funded old man's beard management programme. This was achieved by desktop analysis of annual reports and monitoring data, field visits, and interviews with staff. The review team also held interviews with members of REG and the Department of Conservation (DOC).
17. The review concluded that the management strategy for old man's beard has resulted in some successes. Notably, efforts within the Control Area preventing the geographical

spread of old man's beard, and the protection of high value sites within the Containment Area. Generally, Horizons is on track in regards management of old man's beard in accordance with the RPPMS objectives and current Containment and Control Areas. However, there are a few areas where the boundary between Containment and Control Areas requires minor revision.

18. Other key findings focus on the need to improve monitoring (particularly outcome monitoring) and reporting. Improvements in data collection tools and methodologies will enable more informed decision making into the future.
19. The importance of cross-boundary co-ordination between Horizons and DOC was also highlighted, with a high risk to either control programme should one agency back away.
20. The review has made 26 recommendations. These recommendations will be elaborated on by the review team during presentation of this item.
21. Of concern is the finding that REG is working with little positive outcome for either biodiversity or biosecurity. Accountability for the funding REG receives from Horizons is low.
22. To aid the Committee's thinking on this matter we offer three options to address the issues around funding REG raised in the review.
 - a. Continue to fund REG to work outside of the RPPMS strategic direction or objectives with the provision for REG to set their own work plans for old man's beard control on Rangitikei District Council administered land. The inherent problems with this approach as identified during the review would likely continue.
 - b. Request Rangitikei District Council to collect the targeted rate and fund REG (as they have in the past). This would ensure REG remains funded, and current REG projects could continue. As REG currently work primarily on Rangitikei Council administered land this option could be seen as appropriate. However, it is also likely that the biodiversity and biosecurity outcomes will remain low.
 - c. Internalise the current targeted rate on Rangitikei constituents for old man's beard control into Horizons' budgets. This funding (85K) can then be targeted towards prioritised high value sites on private property within the Rangitikei District in-line with Horizons' strategic direction. REG could then be contracted to undertake the control operations following a sound work plan. Advantages of this approach include a more strategic approach focussed on the protection of high value biodiversity, and a greater accountability for the rate spend. The task of work planning and reporting would be shifted from REG to Horizons' staff.

The energy, enthusiasm, and long-term commitment of the members of REG can not be faulted and their continued involvement in the delivery of the programme should not be discouraged. Therefore this option is our preference as it would allow for the continued support of a worthy community group whilst ensuring greater success in achieving desired outcomes and providing accountability for funding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

23. It is recommended that the Council:
 - a. **receives** the information in Report No. 10-201;
 - b. **acknowledges** the independent reviewers work; and

- c. **considers** reviewing the manner in which funding for old man's beard management within the Rangitikei District (specifically within the Containment Area) is allocated and accounted for.

Greg Carlyon
**GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL PLANNING
AND REGULATORY**

Fleur Maseyk
SENIOR SCIENTIST - ECOLOGY

ANNEX

- A Review of Horizons Regional Council Old Man's Beard Management Strategy (enclosed as a separate report for Councillors – additional copies are available on request or can be viewed on the Horizons Regional Council website).

A Significant decision? If Yes	N
Do recommendations meet Significance Policy (contained within the LTCCP)	

Item No: 6
Date: 14/12/2010
Report No: 10-207
File No: ESM 3 00

**SUBMISSIONS MADE BY THE POLICY TEAM SINCE APRIL 2010 AND AN UPDATE ON
THE STATUS OF VARIOUS NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS/
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS**

PURPOSE

1. This report is to inform the Strategy and Policy Committee about submissions that have been made on draft District Plans and associated discussion documents, Ministry for the Environment Discussion Documents and proposed National Environmental Standards and Policy Statements. The report also includes a summary table updating the status of various National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards. The summary of the status of each of the National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards is *attached* to this report as Annex A.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

2. No financial impact as a result of this report.

BACKGROUND

3. The Regional Council maintains a strong involvement in commenting on national policy papers and draft planning documents from around the Region. This report sets out the Council's recent involvement with national and regional planning documents.

COMMENT

4. The following provides a summary of each submission made by the Regional Council since April 2010.

Ministry for the Environment – “Building Competitive Cities – Reform of the Urban and Infrastructure Planning System” – A Discussion Document

Submission Lodged November 2010

5. The Ministry for the Environment has produced a discussion document detailing options for reform of the urban and infrastructure planning systems. The “*Building Competitive Cities*” discussion document¹ states:

“The Government’s final decisions will aim to achieve the following objectives:

- a. *Provide greater central government direction on resource management.*
- b. *Improve economic efficiency of implementation without compromising underlying environmental integrity.*
- c. *Avoid duplication of process under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and other statutes.*

¹ Ministry for the Environment. Building Competitive Cities – Reform of the Urban Infrastructure Planning System – A Discussion Document. Page vii.

- d. *Achieve efficient and improved participation of Maori in resource management processes.*”
6. The *“Building Competitive Cities”* discussion document states the Government has focused on improving urban planning and infrastructure as the success of New Zealand cities is important to the countries competitiveness, economic performance and the well-being. The discussion document focuses largely on Auckland but there are implications for other New Zealand cities.
 7. Whilst at first glance it may be questionable why the Regional Council should have a role in commenting on urban form and infrastructure issues there is a great deal of overlap in terms of the Regional Council’s strategic role for the Region. Indeed one of the key options outlined in the discussion document is that spatial planning replace regional policy statements and regional land transport strategies. The submission that has been made to the Ministry for the Environment recognises the need for addressing the issues regarding urban form and infrastructure. The submission does however, highlight that the discussion document potentially overstates the problems. The submission recognises that better integration across different legislative frameworks and different planning processes should occur. After lodging the submission the Ministry for the Environment held a series of workshops and as a result of the workshop it became evident that the Discussion Document could have far reaching consequences as it forms the basis for the Phase II Resource Management Act reform. As a result of the workshops the Regional Council sent a further letter expressing concern that there was no further opportunity for local government to have input before reform options are put before Parliament.

Feedback on the Proposal to Develop a National Policy Statement on Biodiversity

Submission Lodged October 2010

8. The Ministry for the Environment sought comment on the proposal to develop a National Policy Statement (NPS) on Biodiversity. The feedback provided to the Ministry noted the Council’s disappointment that a reasonably full draft of the NPS had been prepared without much input from regional councils. The feedback noted that biodiversity is one of the four priority areas for focus within the Region and that the Council supports in principle the proposal to develop an NPS on biodiversity provided it is used to promote minimum standards of protection. Further the feedback noted that the NPS should not curtail the ability of local authorities to develop local solutions for the protection and management of biodiversity.

Submission on the Proposed National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry

Submission Lodged October 2010

9. The content of the Proposed National Environmental Standard (NES) for Plantation Forestry is important for Horizons given the Region has the greatest area and proportion of farmed hill country of any region in the country (i.e. approximately 60% - 1.3 million hectares – is hill country) and a high proportion is subject to accelerated erosion. The submission was very detailed and covered specific issues that were raised on the NES e.g. the activity status for various forestry activities. The submission noted that the NES in its current form does not support well managed forestry and does not appropriately manage the environmental effects. A number of suggestions were made to assist in rectifying the identified inadequacies in the NES.

Submission to Proposed Indigenous Forest and Biodiversity Variation 1 – Stratford District Plan Rolling Review Part 1

Submission Lodged September 2010 and further submission lodged November 2010

10. The submission to Stratford District Council outlined that while the changes to the District Plan take a different approach to indigenous biological diversity than that contained in the Proposed One Plan the approach will provide a similar level of protection. The submission noted that the Council recognise that a co-operative arrangement to implementation is appropriate. Further submissions were lodged on various original submissions confirming the content of the Council's original submission.

Submission on Palmerston North City Council's Draft Urban Design Strategy

Submission Lodged August 2010

11. The Palmerston North City Council provided their draft urban design strategy for comment. The submission noted the Regional Council's support for the overall direction and content of the draft urban design strategy. Support for the increased emphasis on alternative transport options, planned rural residential development, energy efficiency, increased investment in biodiversity and improved water quality in the Manawatu River were noted.

Submission to the Proposed National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil

Submission Lodged April 2010

12. The submission noted that the policy provisions within the Proposed One Plan regarding managing contaminated land provide for an appropriate, targeted and affordable response. Further the submission noted that a national approach that forced the Council to reallocate significant resources to the management of contaminated land would compromise progress on issues identified within the Region as requiring higher priority.

Summary of the Status of Various National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards

13. Annex A to this report contains a summary table of the status of various National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards. The summary is correct as at 22 November 2010. As Cabinet reviews the priority and progress of the Policy Statements and Environmental Standards on a regular basis the status of these documents can change.

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010

14. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS) was approved and takes effect on 3 December 2010. The NZCPS states that the Minister of Conservation does not require any activity as a restricted coastal activity in a regional coastal plan and the Policy Team is currently assessing this provision and the NZCPS generally in terms of any implications for the Proposed One Plan and the Operative Regional Coastal Plan (Change 1 and 2).

The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Bill

15. The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Bill (the Bill) has been introduced to Parliament and if passed, the Bill will repeal the Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004 (FSA). The FSA vested ownership of the public foreshore and seabed in the Crown, and had the effect of extinguishing uninvestigated Māori customary title. The Bill covers:
- a. The area from the mean high-water spring tides extending seawards for 12 nautical miles; and
 - b. The sub-soil, and the water and airspace above this area.

It does not include the water or air itself.

16. The Bill proposes the following changes to the ownership and management of the common marine and coastal area (cmca). This does not include land in private ownership.

Ownership and management of the cmca:

- The ownership of the cmca is removed from the Crown and local authorities. This area is not owned, and cannot be owned, by any person.
- The Minister of Conservation has responsibility for managing the cmca, including making bylaws, unless those powers are explicitly conferred on another person.
- Existing ownership of structures and roads will continue.
- New structures and reclaimed land can be privately owned.
- Local authorities will be able to apply for compensation for these divested areas.

Existing interests in the cmca:

- Existing resource consents are not affected.
- Existing leases, licences and permits run until they expire and can be renewed if they included that right.
- The Crown retains ownership of petroleum, gold, silver and uranium, which are covered by the Crown Minerals Act.

The following public rights to the cmca are confirmed:

- Public access, including “engaging in recreational activities in or on the cmca.
- Navigation rights, including mooring and unloading cargo.
- Legally established fishing rights.

Recognition of Māori customary interests:

- The Bill recognises mana tuku iho (“inherited right or authority derived in accordance with tikanga”) through three forms of customary interest.
 - i. Participation in conservation processes:
 - Restricted to iwi listed under the Maori Fisheries Act 2004 and hapū formally recognised by those iwi.
 - Includes, for example, the right to participate in processes setting up marine reserves or considering marine mammal watching permits, and decision making around stranded marine mammals.
 - Affected iwi and hapū must be notified and can choose to provide their views. If they do so, the decision maker must “have particular regard” to those views.
 - ii. Protected customary rights:

- Includes rights exercised in the cmca since 1840 and still exercised by the applicant group in accordance with tikanga which have not been extinguished by law..,
- Applicant groups can include iwi, hapū or whanau groups, without any restrictions.
- Recognises that activities don't have to be done in exactly the same way to meet this requirement; they can evolve over time.
- Can be exercised without a resource consent, even if one would usually be required, and is not liable for coastal occupation charges.
- Gives control of who, when and how the right is carried out to the holder, and includes the power to transfer the right or derive commercial benefit.
- Has some influence on resource consent applications if the activity is likely to have a more than minor adverse effects on the right.

iii. Customary marine title:

- Exists when an applicant holds a specified area in accordance with tikanga, and has exclusively used and occupied it from 1840 "without substantial interruption" unless the title has been extinguished by law.
- Applicant groups as for protected customary rights.
- Relevant factors include ownership of adjacent land and the exercise of fishing rights.
- Provides an interest in the land but no right to alienate or dispose of it. The associated rights can be transferred or delegated, and the land used or developed for commercial gain.
- Confers extensive rights on the holder, including effectively to veto new resource consent activities and to have a planning document which must be provided for in regional planning documents.

17. Local Government New Zealand is preparing a submission on this Bill on three key areas:
- a. Identification of the possible extent of customary marine title in each region;
 - b. How councils and communities will respond to the new planning documents prepared by holders of customary marine title; and
 - c. Impacts on land or infrastructure owned by local authorities in the common marine and coastal area.
18. Horizons doesn't own any land likely to be affected by changes to ownership proposed under the Bill. Although the Manawatu-Wanganui Region includes areas of cmca, there is a relatively low level of activity particularly when compared to the scale and intensity experienced by some other districts and regions. The Policy Team will provide the Committee with updates on these matters.

Aquaculture Legislation Amendment Bill (No.3)

19. The Primary Production Committee is calling for submissions to be lodged on the Aquaculture Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3). The Policy Team are currently assessing the content of the Bill and will report back to the Committee once the initial assessment has been completed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

20. That the Strategy and Policy Committee recommend that Council:
- a. **receives** the information contained within Report No. 10.207;
 - b. **notes** that further updates on the status of National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards will be provided on a recurring six monthly basis.

Clare Barton
SENIOR CONSENTS PLANNER

Greg Carlyon
**GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL PLANNING
AND REGULATORY**

ANNEX

- A A summary of the status of National Policy Statements and National Environmental Standards

The following table provides a summary of the NPS's and NES's as at 22 November 2010 that were in force, out for public comment, or being scoped by the Ministry for the Environment.

Name	Purpose	Status	Key points from submission made to NPS and NES (if applicable)
National Policy Statements (NPS)			
New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS)	<p>The purpose of the NZCPS is to state policies to achieve the purpose of the RMA – to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources – in relation to the coastal environment of New Zealand.</p> <p>The first NZCPS was released in 1994.</p>	<p>The 2010 NZCPS has been released and it takes effect on 3 December 2010.</p>	<p>Horizons Regional Council submitted to the NZCPS early in 2008 (refer to Council Agenda Report 08-66).</p> <p>Broad comments were made regarding cost implication of the policy statement on Councils required to implement changes, terminology used and unnecessary repetition within the policy statement.</p> <p>More specific comments were also made on each of the 55 policies, either stating support or opposing the policy with specific reasoning.</p>
The National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission	<p>This NPS gives guidance across New Zealand for the management and future planning of the national transmission grid. It also looks to recognise the national significance of the national grid in RMA plans and local decision making.</p>	<p>The National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission was gazetted on 13 March 2008.</p>	<p>Horizons Regional Council opposed Policy 5 of the Proposed Policy Statement which required the inclusion of electricity grid references on all planning maps, regardless of the intent of those maps.</p> <p>Horizons noted that land use designations have little relevance to Regional Authorities and accordingly Horizons could not see any relevance or benefit in including such references on maps associated with Regional Plans.</p> <p>As a result of this and other submissions, the NPS has restricted this policy to requiring Territorial Authorities to include electricity grid references on their maps.</p>
The National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation	<p>This NPS aims to set out the Government's objectives for future energy development in New Zealand, assisting to guide often competing values surrounding the benefits of renewable energy in light of local environmental impacts.</p>	<p>The NPS has been considered by the Board of Inquiry and the wording is now being finalised by Officials.</p> <p>The Government aims to have this</p>	<p>Clare Barton has been involved in a Working Group providing feedback to Officials on the NPS. The involvement in the Working Group has required the signing of a confidentiality agreement and information cannot yet be shared.</p>

Name	Purpose	Status	Key points from submission made to NPS and NES (if applicable)
The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management	This NPS will seek to provide context and objectives for freshwater management in New Zealand. It will assist in achieving the key outcomes of the Sustainable Water Programme of Action: improved water quality, more efficient use of water, and management of the increasing demands for water.	NPS gazetted prior to Christmas 2010. The Land and Water Forum considered and commented on wording of the NPS in September 2010.	The Ministry for the Environment is considering changes or alternatives.
The National Policy Statement on Flood Risk Management	This NPS aimed to acknowledge the national significance of good flood risk management and by providing clear direction for decision makers.”	This NPS is on hold.	
The National Policy Statement on Urban Design	The purpose of this NPS is to provide national guidance to improve the quality of urban design in New Zealand. It is anticipated that national guidance will complement existing voluntary, non-statutory initiatives like the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol.	In February/March 2011 there will be a paper to Cabinet seeking approval regarding the scope of the NPS.	Consideration as to whether to continue with an urban design NPS (or an alternative approach), and in what form, will comprise part of the policy advice that will be reported back to the government as part of the urban planning work programme.
National Policy Statement on Biodiversity		The NPS is being drafted. It is expected submissions will be sought in January and February 2011.	
National Environmental Standards (NES)			
National Environmental Standard for Air Quality	<p>This NES includes 14 air quality standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven standards banning activities that discharge significant quantities of dioxins and other toxins into the air • Five standards for ambient (outdoor) air quality • A design standard for new wood burners 	Gazetted in October 2004 with amendments in June 2005. A Cabinet decision may be made in the future regarding review outcomes.	Horizons has given effect to this NES in Rule 14-6 of the Proposed One Plan.

Name	Purpose	Status	Key points from submission made to NPS and NES (if applicable)
	<p>installed in urban areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A requirement for landfills over 1 million tonnes of refuse to collect greenhouse gas emissions. 		
National Environmental Standard for Sources of Human Drinking Water	<p>This NES is intended to reduce the risk of contaminating drinking water sources (such as rivers and groundwater). It will do this by requiring Regional Councils to consider the effects of activities on drinking water sources in their decision making, including the granting of consents.</p>	<p>This regulation was gazetted on 20 December 2007.</p>	<p>Horizons supported the overall intent and approach taken in this NES. Generally, the submission noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in many areas the NES is consistent with Horizons approach. the NES contains direction which is sensible and workable. <p>Unfortunately, the final NES, while remaining sensible in its intent, is complex and lacks helpful interpretation of the New Zealand drinking water standards.</p> <p>The regulation excludes the NES from consideration in proposed plans if the closing date for submissions on the plan is after 20 December 2007. The closing date for submissions to the Proposed One Plan was 19 December 2007, which means it had to be considered and has been incorporated into the Plan provisions.</p>
National Environmental Standard for Measurement of Water Takes	<p>This proposed standard will help better water management by ensuring accurate measuring of the amount of water taken from rivers, lakes and aquifers. The standard will do this by setting minimum requirements for the installation and operation of new water measuring and recording devices, including the transfer of data to Regional Councils.</p>	<p>This NES comes into effect November 2010. A user guide will be prepared by MFE in January 2011</p>	<p>Generally, Horizons did not support this NES. The submission noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horizons already has a “near real-time” system in place in the Proposed One Plan. The NES does not aim to achieve the “real-time” data gathering that is necessary for efficient allocation of water during water shortages or compliance monitoring of resource consents. The NES will quickly become obsolete as water management techniques are developed and telemetry equipment is increasingly accessible

Name	Purpose	Status	Key points from submission made to NPS and NES (if applicable)
			<p>and affordable.</p> <p>Horizons suggest the NES should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage and enable the adoption of more advanced requirements for measurement and monitoring of water takes in Regional Plans than the minimum requirements of the NES; and - Give precedence to Regional Plans over the NES where those Plans contain more advanced requirements for measurement and monitoring of water takes than the minimum requirements of the NES.
National Environmental Standard on Ecological Flows and Water Levels	This proposed standard will look to recognise the importance of establishing environmental flows and water levels as a critical part of effective water management.	Submissions closed 29 August 2008. MfE is considering changes as part of the officials report back in April 2011	<p>Horizons Regional Council submitted that the NES is not supported due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Proposed One Plan taking a generally more stringent approach than the NES, which, as a consequence, means the NES is no longer applicable to or necessary for this Region; • the significant difference between the intent of the proposed NES and the detail; and • the NES creates a barrier to new methodologies for determining minimum flows and allocatable volumes by referencing one particular method. <p>Horizons suggest that the final NES excludes Regional Councils that have already set minimum flows and allocation limits in their plans and not force them to comply with the methodology set out in the NES.</p>
National Environmental Standard for Telecommunications Facilities	The proposed standards cover radiofrequency fields generated by telecommunication antennas, the erection of roadside cabinets, the addition of antennas to existing structures (such as light poles) on roadsides or verges, and noise levels for the	Submissions have now been reviewed and Regulations are being drafted and will be gazetted later	Horizons did not submit on this NES

Name	Purpose	Status	Key points from submission made to NPS and NES (if applicable)
	operation of roadside cabinets.	this year	
National Environmental Standard for On-site Wastewater Systems		This NES has been withdrawn.	
National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil	To develop a standard for the assessment and management of contaminated land.	Submissions closed on 19 April 2010. There have been 106 submissions. A Cabinet Paper is to be prepared seeking approval of the NES in early 2011.	
National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission	This NES for Electricity Transmission is split into two parts, the Transmission Activities NES and the Transmission Risks NES. The NES's will look to complement the NPS on Electricity Transmission, which was gazetted on 13 March 2008 and took effect on 10 April 2008. The standards will set at a national level which types of electricity transmission activities are permitted and which require consents.	Submissions closed 30 November 2007. The NES is in force.	Horizons Regional Council did not submit to this NES.
National Environmental Standard for Sea Level Rise		This NES is on hold.	



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