

26 September 2019

ERM< 04 03  
APP-2011014564.02 JM:LB

Department of Conservation  
Via email: [tmoore@doc.govt.nz](mailto:tmoore@doc.govt.nz)

Dear Tamzin,

## **DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION – WHAKAPAPA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – REQUEST FOR AN UPDATE**

The Department of Conservation's ("DOC") application for resource consents associated with the Whakapapa Wastewater Treatment has been on 'hold' following the notification of the consents. Through this process it is understood DOC have been considering some of issues raised by submitters along with considering the location of the proposed discharge.

It is understood that DOC are looking to relocate the discharge area outside of the Tongariro National Park and is in the process of considering two sites. While it is good to see progress is being made and there is an ongoing dialogue with the submitters, there has been a significant delay in progressing the consent application. Until the re-consenting of the discharge is progressed the site continues to operate under the existing consent.

A compliance assessment has been undertaken for the site and the discharge. This assessment shows the site is unable to comply with the conditions and requirements of the consent. From the compliance assessment the existing discharge is having a significant effect on the Stream.

Given the location and extent of non-compliances with the existing consent, there needs to be progress on resolving the consent. While I appreciate it takes time to discuss the various options with submitters and iwi there needs to be progress made towards finalizing the preferred option.

To this end, I would appreciate an updated timetable with key dates and steps outlining the following: a finalised decision on which site will be used outside of the park and details of when a new consent will be lodged with Council.

As part of the new consent (irrespective of discharge areas), consideration will need to be given to Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui River Claims Settlement) Act 2017. Please ensure that the consent application gives consideration to the values identified within Te Awa Tupua. This may mean that in addition to talking to local iwi the final proposal

should be discussed with Nga Tangata Tiaki and the office of Te Pou Tupua to seek their views prior to the consent being lodged.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jasmine:  
[jasmine.mitchell@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:jasmine.mitchell@horizons.govt.nz).

Kind regards



Nic Peet  
**GROUP MANAGER, STRATEGY AND REGULATION**