



Pahiatua Waste Water Treatment Plant

Discharge of Treated Wastewater

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Prepared By


Tabitha Manderson
Senior Resource Management Planner

Opus International Consultants Ltd
Palmerston North Office
L4, The Square Centre, 478 Main
Street
PO Box 1472, PN Central, Palmerston
North 4440
New Zealand

Reviewed By


Ann-Marie Mori
Senior Planner

Telephone: +64 6 350 2500
Facsimile: +64 6 350 2525

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Dave Watson
Utilities Manager Taranaki District

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PART A DISCHARGE PERMIT APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 88 OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

To: The General Manager
Horizons Regional Council
Private Bag 11025
Palmerston North

Applicant: Tararua District Council

Proposal: To discharge treated wastewater from the Pahiatua Wastewater Treatment Plant into land where it may enter water.

Location: Julia Street, Pahiatua

Legal Description: Part Lot 2 DP 52391 Blk VIII Mangahao SD, Lot 1 DP 52391 (WN44B/616)

Valuation 17390/21100 and 17390/21200

Consent Required: Discharge Permit to discharge treated wastewater to land where it may enter water under Rule 14-30 of the One Plan
Discharge to Air (Odour) under Rule 15-17

Term Sought 15 Years

Attachments: The Assessment of Environmental Effects is attached as Part B of this report. Other attachments include:

Appendix I Photos

Consultation: Please refer to Section 4 of this AEE for information on the consultation undertaken.

On behalf of
Tararua District Council


Dated 11-12-2015

Address for Service:

Opus International Consultants Limited
PO Box 1472
Palmerston North

Ph: (06) 350 3272

Fax: (06) 350 2501

Attention: Tabitha Manderson

PART B ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

1 Introduction

This application has been prepared in accordance with those matters set out in section 88 of, and the Fourth Schedule to, the Resource Management Act 1991. This statement of effects accompanies and forms part of the resource consent application.

The purpose of this application is to obtain resource consent to allow for the ongoing operation of the Pahiatua Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) by Tararua District Council (TDC). This application will replace Discharge Permit 4369.

The Tararua District Council is the territorial authority for a large land area (424,000 hectares) that extends from Mount Bruce at the southern boundary to just north of Norsewood at the northern boundary, and from the Tararua and Ruahine Ranges to the Pacific Coast. The District contains four urban centres and has a total population of 16,854 (Statistics NZ, 2013).

The Manawatu River and five of its major tributaries flow through the district and are highly valued for the resources and recreational opportunities that they provide the wider community and local economy. Numerous smaller tributaries of the Manawatu River also originate within the District, several of which are used by Tararua District Council for water supply purposes and for the discharge of treated wastewater.

The provision of a reticulated sewerage system is integral to the functioning and health of any community and Tararua District Council is therefore committed to providing this service to its residents, whilst ensuring a balance between minimizing adverse effects of domestic wastewater discharges on waterways and not overly burdening the District's ratepayers. Tararua District Council is a signatory to the Manawatu River Accord and this has marked a significant shift in focus to Council being committed to working collaboratively with other interested parties and landowners to jointly improve the water quality of the Manawatu River.

TDC have recently investigated a number of upgrade options to improve the performance of a number of its WWTPs. There are some commonalities of design across the sites while still allowing for specific individual site values to be addressed. Improving the treatment of wastewater discharges is a key issue identified by TDC's Vision Statement in its Long Term Plan (2015-2025). The River Accord actions that Council is a signatory to underpin the need to increase the standard of wastewater discharge to the Manawatu River system.

1.1 Background

Tararua District Council (TDC) is currently working with the Manawatu Wanganui Regional Council (Horizons) and the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) to undertake upgrades to various wastewater treatment plants in the Manawatu Catchment.

The Pahiatua WWTP is currently operating under Discharge Permit 4369. The existing discharge point is to Town Creek, a small spring fed stream approximately 500m upstream of its confluence with the Mangatainoka River.

A consent application was lodged in December 2014 for a newly designed plant. At this time no consent was sought pursuant to Rule 14-30 in relation to the permeability standard for the oxidation ponds. This was due to the relatively recent re-lining of the ponds with clay liner. However, at this time the level of information in relation to permeability standards of the clay liner were not able to be obtained. This is due to the contractor going into receivership and permeability testing results no longer being available as a result. Other options for demonstrating permeability would be relatively costly to achieve a robust result. It was determined from a precautionary point of view to apply for an additional consent to cover this aspect of the treatment plant and resultant discharge.

This application therefore sits alongside the application lodged in December 2014 (APP-1993001253.02)

1.2 The Proposal

This proposal is to cover the discharge of partially treated wastewater from the base of the oxidation ponds at the Pahiatua WWTP.

The ponds were relined with a clay liner, and concrete wave bands in 2002-2003. Records relating to the permeability standards achieved are not available and the cost of demonstrating permeability is relatively high.

1.3 The Existing Environment

The resident population for Pahiatua according to the 2013 Census is 2412 people.

The WWTP is accessed from Julia Street, Pahiatua on the north-western edge of town. The WWTP is at the edge of the residential zone of Pahiatua. The land to the north and west of the WWTP is part of the Rural Management Area as defined by the Tararua District Plan.

1.3.1 Mangatainoka River

The Mangatainoka River arises in the north eastern Tararua Ranges with headwaters in the Tararua Forest Park. Below the park the remainder of the river moves from hill country (sheep, deer & beef farming) to more intensive dairy farming in the lowlands.

The Mangatainoka River supports introduced and native fish populations. The National Freshwater Fish Database identifies that shortfin eel, upland bully, common smelt, torrentfish, brown trout, longfin eel, crans bully, koaro, shortjawed kokopu and koura (freshwater crayfish) are found in the River. The Mangatainoka River is also home to the regionally endemic (i.e. known to exist only in this region) freshwater polychaete *Namanereis tiriteae*.

The Mangatainoka River is identified as a Regionally Significant trout fishery and is also covered by a Local Water Conservation Notice (Mangatainoka River 1991), recognising the fisheries and aesthetic values of the River.

Under the Horizons Regional Council One Plan the following Schedule A/B assessment identifies the following Values:

- Life Supporting Capacity – Hill country mixed geology;
- Aesthetics;
- Mauri;

- Contact Recreation;
- Industrial abstraction;
- Irrigation abstraction;
- Stock water;
- Existing infrastructure; and
- Capacity to assimilate pollution.

Schedule B site specific values that apply to the main stem reach of the stream are:

- Trout Fishery – Regionally Significant Trout Fishery
- Trout Spawning
- Site of Significance – Dotterel
- Flood Control - Drainage

1.4 Existing Treatment System

A description of the upgraded treatment system and effluent quality is provided in section 1.3 of the application lodged in December 2014 and is not repeated here.

1.5 Changes Made to the WWTP in Recent Years

A number of small improvements have been made to the WWTP in recent years:

- The ponds were desludged, lined with clay and refurbished in 2002-2003.
- A single Reliant aerator and a single HPE cage aerator were added to Pond 1 (the old HPE cage aerator will be removed as part of the new upgrades).
- A further aerator was added to Pond 2 in 2014
- Mixing walls were installed in Pond 3 in 2014

The addition of aeration to the ponds would have reduced BOD and, normally increased ammonia oxidation. Effectively, mechanical aeration increases the oxidation capacity of the ponds beyond what it would be when naturally aspirated by the wind. Desludging and installing mixing walls would have increased the hydraulic retention time, giving a higher probability of increasing nitrification and bacterial and viral removal rates.

An initial assessment of the wastewater discharge indicated that changes that have been made to the wastewater treatment process over the period 2008-2010 have delivered quantifiable improvements to the quality of the wastewater discharge.¹ With two exceptions (nitrate-nitrogen and total organic nitrogen concentrations), the discharge is currently exerting a smaller impact on the Mangatainoka River than was the case in 2009.

¹ *Pahiatua Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent Renewal: Assessment of Environmental Effects*. Opus, July 2014.

1.6 Alternatives Considered

1.6.1 Synthetic Liner

Synthetic liners, correctly installed, can meet the permeability standard of $1 \times 10^{-9} \text{m/s}$.

In this case, given the size of the ponds and the relatively recent relining of the ponds with clay it was deemed un-economic to re-line with a synthetic liner.

2 Assessment of Environmental Effects

2.1 Effects on Water Quality

An assessment on potential effects on water quality is presented in the original application. It is considered that the majority of effects would eventually be picked up in the surface water quality effects and therefore are addressed in the application lodged in 2014.

2.2 Effects on Air Quality

Potentially odorous compounds include ammonia and hydrogen sulphide. Odour can often result when organic material is being decomposed under anaerobic conditions.

The only odour complaints received for the Pahiatua WWTP site occurred when aerators were first installed at the plant, and deeper layers of the pond began to be activated. Since this time no complaints have been received. The installation of aerators would reduce potential of odours resulting in the treatment ponds. The potential odour effects are considered to be less than minor.

3 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Resource Management Act 1991

The purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991 is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

3.1.1 Part II

Part 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991 sets out the purpose and principles of the Act, to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources while enabling people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety.

The wastewater treatment plant is a physical resource and provides a vital function by contributing to the health and safety of people and the community of Pahiatua. TDC has duties under the Local Government Act (2002) and Health Act (1956) to provide wastewater treatment for the Pahiatua community. It is important that these services be provided in a cost effective way, meeting the social and economic aspirations of the community. Improvements to the existing treatment system and imposition of appropriate consent conditions will ensure the sustainable management of the receiving environment.

Section 6 of the Act sets out the Matters of National Importance that need to be recognised and provided for. Those relevant to this proposal are:

- (a) *The preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area), wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development;*

(e) The relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga

The proposed discharge is an existing discharge, the continuation of the discharge with improved treatment of the wastewater is not considered to be an inappropriate use. The ponds have recently been relined with a clay liner.

The preservation of the natural character will be maintained through the imposition of appropriate resource consent conditions.

A Cultural Impact Assessment report has been prepared as part of the overall upgrades at the site, which assists in addressing Section 6(e).

Section 7, Other Matters, lists a number of issues Council must consider when assessing applications for resource consents. Those relevant to this proposal include:

- (b) the efficient use and development of natural and physical resources*
- (c) the maintenance and enhancement of amenity values;*
- (d) intrinsic values of ecosystems; and*
- (f) the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment.*
- (h) the protection of the habitat of trout and salmon*

As noted above the WWTP represents a significant physical resource, the proposed ongoing use of that resource is considered to be an efficient use; the upgrades to the clay liner represent the development of a physical resource.

Both technical AEEs prepared in support of this application conclude that there is little indication that the discharge is having an impact on life-supporting capacity in the River.

Odour is not anticipated to negatively impact on amenity in the surrounding area.

The amenity values of the area will be maintained as the effects are no more than minor. The intrinsic values of ecosystems and the quality of the environment will be enhanced with the proposed upgrades.

Section 8 of the Act states that consent authorities must take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. There are no specific Treaty issues with regard to this application.

3.1.2 Section 104 Assessment

Subject to Part 2 of the Act, in making a decision on this application, Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council is required, under section 104 (1) of the RMA, to have regard to -

- (a) any actual and potential effects on the environment of allowing the activity; and*
- (b) any relevant provisions of—*
 - (i) a national environmental standard:*

(ii) other regulations:

(iii) a national policy statement:

(iv) a New Zealand coastal policy statement:

(v) a regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement:

(vi) a plan or proposed plan; and

(c) any other matter the consent authority considers relevant and reasonably necessary to determine the application.

The actual and potential effects of the discharge have been considered in section 2 above.

The Technical Memo prepared by Aquanet Consulting Ltd in support of the December 2014 application provides a technical assessment against the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 and is not repeated here.

The relevant planning provisions are considered and assessed in the following sections.

TDC are signatories of the Manawatu River Accord, this is considered to be a relevant other matter. The Accord sets out focus, vision and goals for the Manawatu River.

Specific goals set out in the Accord are:

- *The Manawatu River becomes a source of regional pride and mana.*
- *Waterways in the Manawatu Catchment are safe, accessible, swimmable, and provide good recreation and food resources.*
- *The Manawatu Catchment and waterways are returned to a healthy condition.*
- *Sustainable use of the land and water resources of the Manawatu Catchment continues to underpin the economic prosperity of the Region.*

The renewal of the discharge permit for Pahiatua is identified as one of the tasks for TDC under the Accord Action Plan.

Under 104 (2A) *When considering an application affected by section 124[or 165ZH(1)(c)], the consent authority must have regard to the value of the investment of the existing consent holder.*

The current asset value of the WWTP is \$2 million the planned upgrades are \$1.2 million.

3.1.3 Matters relevant to certain applications

Under Section 105 matters relevant to certain applications:

(1) *If an application is for a discharge permit or coastal permit to do something that would contravene section 15 or section 15B, the consent authority must, in addition to the matters in section 104(1), have regard to—*

(a) *the nature of the discharge and the sensitivity of the receiving environment to adverse effects; and*

(b) the applicant's reasons for the proposed choice; and

(c) any possible alternative methods of discharge, including discharge into any other receiving environment.

The likely effluent quality once upgrades have been installed has been estimated and effects on the environment assessed.

TDC reasoning for the choice of upgrade includes the efficiency of having some commonality across the different WWTPs, allowing for learnings to be shared across the WWTPs.

Alternatives have been considered, including relining with a synthetic liner, and are outlined in section 1.5

3.1.4 107 Assessment

Section 107 of the RMA describes that a consent authority shall not grant a discharge permit that, after reasonable mixing, gives rise to any of the following effects:

(c) The production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials:

(d) Any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity:

(e) Any emission of objectionable odour:

(f) The rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals:

(g) Any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.

As this application relates to potential discharge of treated wastewater through land (base of the ponds) to where it may enter water it is considered unlikely to give rise to any of the effects listed in Section 107.

3.2 Regional Policy Statement

The Horizons Regional Council One Plan is considered to be the relevant planning document. This contains both the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and Regional Plans.

The objectives and policies of the RPS relevant to the proposal are:

3.2.1 Chapter 3 - Infrastructure

Objective 3-1: Infrastructure^ and other physical resources of regional or national importance

Have regard to the benefits of infrastructure^ and other physical resources of regional or national importance by enabling their establishment, operation, maintenance* and upgrading*.*

Policy 3-1: Benefits of infrastructure^ and other physical resources of regional or national importance

(a) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities^ must recognise the following infrastructure^ as being physical resources of regional or national importance:

(viii) public or community sewage treatment plants and associated reticulation and disposal systems

(c) The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities^ must, in relation to the establishment, operation, maintenance*, or upgrading* of infrastructure^ and other physical resources of regional or national importance, listed in (a) and (b), have regard to the benefits derived from those activities.*

COMMENT

The WWTP at Pahiatua provides ongoing benefits to the residents of Pahiatua by providing functioning wastewater treatment infrastructure. Benefits include providing for social and economic well-beings for the community. It is considered to be appropriate to have regard to Objective 3-1 and Policy 3-1 when making a decision regarding this application.

3.2.2 Chapter 5 - WATER

Objective 5-2: Water^ quality

(a) Surface water^ quality is managed to ensure that:

(i) water^ quality is maintained in those rivers^ and lakes^ where the existing water^ quality is at a level sufficient to support the Values in Schedule B

(ii) water^ quality is enhanced in those rivers^ and lakes^ where the existing water^ quality is not at a level sufficient to support the Values in Schedule B

COMMENT

Objective 5-2 is supported by various Policies which outline how water quality targets must be used to inform the management of surface water. Policies 5-3 to 5-5 set out the policies depending on whether the specified targets are being met for each Water Management Sub-Zone.

In this case it is considered the Policy 5-4 is the most relevant as the water quality targets are not all being met for the sub-zone.

Policy 5-4: Enhancement where water quality targets* are not met

(a) Where the existing water^ quality does not meet the relevant Schedule D water quality targets within a Water Management Sub-zone*, water^ quality within that sub-zone must be managed in a manner that enhances existing water^ quality in order to meet:*

(ia) the water quality target for the Water Management Zone in Schedule D; and/or*

(ii) the relevant Schedule B Values and management objectives that the water quality target* is designed to safeguard.

(b) For the avoidance of doubt:

(i) in circumstances where the existing water^ quality of a Water Management Sub-zone* does not meet all of the water quality targets* for the Sub-zone*, (a) applies to every water quality target* for the Sub-zone

(ii) in circumstances where the existing water^ quality of a Water Management Sub-zone* does not meet some of the water quality targets* for the Sub-zone*, (a) applies only to those water quality targets* not met.

COMMENT

The proposed discharge is located within Mangatainoka (Mana_8) and Lower Mangatainoka (Mana_8c) Water Management Zones and Sub-zones which has zone wide values for: Life Supporting Capacity – Hill Country Mixed geology; aesthetics; Mauri; contact recreation; stockwater; Industrial abstraction; Irrigation; Existing Infrastructure and Capacity to Assimilate Pollution. Schedule AB site specific values for the main stem reach of the River are: Trout Fishery – Regionally Significant Trout Fishery; Trout Spawning; Site of Significance – Dotterel; Flood Control – Drainage.

An assessment of the WWTP impact on the receiving environment is given in the application lodged in December 2014, it concludes that the WWTP does not play a significant role with the exception of DRP. The role that any treated effluent that reaches water from the base of the ponds is not expected to be significant, this is due to the recent clay lining of the ponds, and effluent that has percolated through the soil profile would not be expected to have high levels of DRP.

Overall the proposal is consistent with Policy 5-4.

Policy 5-11: Human sewage discharges^

Notwithstanding other policies in this chapter:

(a) before entering a surface water body^ all new discharges^ of treated human sewage must:

(i) be applied onto or into land^, or

(ii) flow overland, or

(iii) pass through a rock filter, or

(iv) pass through a wetland^ treatment system, or

(v) pass through an alternative system that mitigates the adverse effects^ on the mauri* of the receiving water body^, and

(b) all existing direct discharges^ of treated human sewage into a surface water body^ must change to a treatment system described under (a) by the year 2020 or on renewal of an existing consent, whichever is the earlier date.

COMMENT

This application is for the discharge of treated wastewater from the base of clay lined ponds that may enter water, in effect into land. This is considered consistent with Policy 5-11.

Objective 7-1: Ambient air quality

A standard of ambient air quality is maintained which is not detrimental to amenity values, human health, property of the life-supporting capacity of air and meets the national ambient air quality standards.

Policy 7-2: Regional standards for ambient air quality

In addition to the National Environmental Standards set out in Policy 7-1, ambient air quality must be managed in accordance with the regional standards set out in Table 7.3.

COMMENT

The relevant standard from Table 7.3 for Odour is that a discharge must not cause any offensive or objectionable odour beyond the property boundary. No odour complaints have been received at the plant in recent years. The only historical complaint received was before the aerators became fully operational. No objectionable odour beyond the boundary is anticipated.

The proposal is considered consistent with the above objective and policy.

OVERALL CONCLUSION

The proposal is consistent with the relevant Objectives and Policies from the Regional Policy Statement.

3.3 The Regional Plan

The Summary of consent requirements as follows:

- Discharge of Treated Wastewater to Water – Rule 14-30, Discretionary Activity
- Discharge of Odour – Rule 15-14, Discretionary Activity

3.3.1 CHAPTER 14 - DISCHARGES TO LAND AND WATER**Objective 14-1 Management of discharges[^] to land[^] and water[^] and land[^] uses affecting groundwater and surface water quality**

The management of discharges[^] onto or into land[^] (including those that enter water[^]) or directly into water[^] and land[^] use activities affecting groundwater and surface water[^] quality in a manner that:

- (a) safeguards the life supporting capacity of water and recognises and provides for the Values and management objectives in Schedule B,*
- (b) provides for the objectives and policies of Chapter 5 as they relate to surface water[^] and groundwater quality, and*
- (c) where a discharge[^] is onto or into land[^], avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse effects[^] on surface water[^] or groundwater.*

Policy 14-1: Consent decision-making for discharges[^] to water[^]

When making decisions on resource consent applications, and setting consent conditions, for discharges of water or contaminants into water, the Regional Council must specifically consider:

- (a) the objectives and policies 5-1 to 5-5 and 5-9 of Chapter 5, and have regard to:*
- (b) avoiding discharges which contain any persistent contaminants that are likely to accumulate in a water body or its bed,*
- (c) the appropriateness of adopting the best practicable option to prevent or minimise adverse effects in circumstances where:*
 - (i) it is difficult to establish discharge parameters for a particular discharge that give effect to the management approaches for water quality and discharges set out in Chapter 6, or*
 - (ii) the potential adverse effects are likely to be minor, and the costs associated with adopting the best practicable option are small in comparison to the costs of investigating the likely effects on land and water, and*
- (d) the objectives and policies of Chapters 2, 3, 6, 9 and 12 to the extent that they are relevant to the discharge.*

COMMENT

As there is no significant industry contributing to the WWTP it is not considered there would be any persistent contaminants that would accumulate in the River or its bed.

The ponds were relatively recently relined with clay, using up-to-date construction methods. The role of any effluent that may pass through the clay liner are expected to be minor. Costs associated with demonstrating this would likely be significant, and difficult to separate from the impact from the point source discharge into the river itself. Use of a clay liner is still considered to be the best practicable option for this site.

Policy 13-2B: Options for discharges to surface water and land

When applying for consents and making decisions on consent applications for discharges of contaminants into water or onto or into land, the opportunity to utilise alternative discharge options, or a mix of discharge regimes, for the purpose of mitigating adverse effects, applying the best practicable option, must be considered, including but not limited to:

- (a) discharging contaminants onto or into land as an alternative to discharging contaminants into water,*
- (b) withholding from discharging contaminants into surface water at times of low flow, and*
- (c) adopting different treatment and discharge options for different receiving environments or at different times (including different flow regimes or levels in surface water bodies).*

COMMENT

As noted in the December 2014 application - land treatment has been considered, but not considered to be the best practicable option at this stage. The proposed upgrade is considered to be the best practicable option at this stage.

Policy 13-4: Monitoring requirements for consent holders

Point source discharges^ of contaminants^ to water^ must generally be subject to the following monitoring requirements:

- (a) the regular monitoring of discharge^ volumes on discharges^ smaller than 100 m³/day and making the records available to the Regional Council on request,*
- (b) the installation of a pulse-count capable meter in order to monitor the volume discharged^ for discharges^ of 100 m³/day or greater,*
- (c) the installation of a Regional Council compatible telemetry system on discharges^ of 300 m³/day or greater, and*
- (d) monitoring and reporting on the quality of the discharge^ at the point of discharge^ before it enters surface water^ and the quality of the receiving water^ upstream and downstream of the point of discharge^ (after reasonable mixing*) may also be required. This must align with the Regional Council's environmental monitoring programme where reasonably practicable to enable cumulative impacts to be measured.*

COMMENT

A monitoring programme is currently being developed, this will be in accordance with the above policy.

3.3.2 CHAPTER 15 - DISCHARGES TO AIR

Objective 15-1: Air quality

The management of air quality in a manner that has regard to:

- (a) maintaining or enhancing ambient air* quality in a manner that safeguards the health of the Region's community,*
- (b) meeting the regional ambient air* standards (Table 7.3) and National Environmental Standards^ (Table 7.1),*
- (c) managing air quality so that it is not detrimental to amenity values^, and*
- (d) managing fine particle (PM₁₀*) levels to ensure that they are reduced in unacceptable airsheds and managed in other areas to ensure compliance with the national ambient air* quality standard for PM₁₀*.*

COMMENT

Policy 15-2 provides guidance in relation to decision making for discharges into air. The objectives and policies of Chapter 7 are met by the proposal. In the event that objectionable odour did extend beyond the property boundary changes to management at site would be undertaken to address it to minimise its duration, but this is not anticipated. In terms of sensitive areas the WWTP has been in existence for a long time in relatively close proximity to nearby residential properties, public roads and the River, but it is impractical to change its location. Effects on these potentially sensitive areas are expected to be minimal subject to isolated situations at the plant which would then involve mitigation measures (such as changes in management) subject to compliance with a Management Plan.

Overall the proposed discharge is considered to be consistent with the relevant Regional Plan objectives and policies.

4 Mitigation

The main form of mitigation for the Pahiatua WWTP is the extensive upgrades that are planned for the site, as described in the application lodged in December 2014.

Once the commissioning phase is completed a Management Plan will be prepared by TDC. This will ensure that the optimised plant performance can be continued, even if staff changes occur.

5 Consultation

TDC have led consultation with a number of interested parties.

Representatives from Rangitane and Water and Environmental Care Association Inc (WECA) were invited in November 2014 to visit the Pahiatua site to discuss with TDC the proposed upgrades prior to any of the proposed upgrades being finalised. Both parties visited the site in January 2015. Fish and Game were also invited, but did not respond to the invitation.

As part of the cultural values assessment, representatives from Rangitane visited the site in 2015.

Representatives from Ngati Kahungunu visited the site in 2015.

Onsite visits have recently (November 2014) taken place with representatives from Ngati Kahungunu and Fish and Game.

TDC have had ongoing discussions with the landowner around the pond area Mr. Phillip Morrison.

WECA and Fish and Game were both invited to visit the site in late 2015 to view the completed upgrades. WECA visited in November 2015. Fish and Game did not respond

6 Summary

The resource consent application to discharge treated wastewater to land that may enter water under Rule 14-30 and to discharge to air (odour) under Rule 15-17 of the One Plan, addresses the

actual and potential effects arising from this activity and assesses the activity against the Resource Management Act 1991 and the relevant Regional Plans. The proposal is consistent with the objectives and policies listed in this application, and given the proposed upgrades to the treatment plant the effects of the activity are considered to be no more than minor.

APPENDIX I – PHOTOS OF RELINING













APPENDIX II –



Opus International Consultants Ltd
L4, The Square Centre, 478 Main Street
PO Box 1472, PN Central, Palmerston North
4440
New Zealand

i: +64 6 350 2500
f: +64 6 350 2525
w: www.opus.co.nz

