

IN THE MATTER OF

The Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

Applications made to Manawatu-Wanganui
(Horizons) Regional Council (MWRC)

(Consent Authority)

BY

TARARUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

(the Applicant)

For the hearing of **APP-2005011178.01** and **APP-2018201909.00** for resource consents associated with the operation of the Eketāhuna Wastewater Treatment Plant, including construction of a wetland, diversion of water, construction of a bund, a discharge into the Makakahi River, a discharge to air (principally odour), a discharge to land via pond and wetland seepage, Bridge Street, Eketāhuna

IN THE MATTER OF

The Resource Management Act 1991

MEMORANDUM 9 TO PARTICIPANTS

Directions

29 October 2018

PURPOSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM

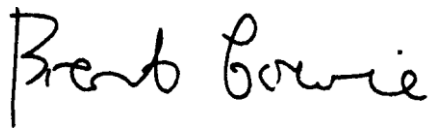
- 1 The purpose of this memorandum is to provide directions to the participants, specifically the applicant, in relation to hearing matters.
- 2 In the process of reviewing the pre-circulated reports, expert evidence and our notes from the hearing, we have found that there are several matters that need to

be addressed. Specifically we would like the following points answered by the Applicant, preferably in their pre-circulated evidence:

- 2.1 Has the screen to remove coarse solids at the WWTP been commissioned yet? If not, when will it be commissioned?
- 2.2 What additional work has been done to characterise wastewater inflows since the April 2017 hearing? Please describe this.
- 2.3 Has any additional work being done to reduce stormwater ingress into the WWTP network since April 2017? Please describe this.
- 2.4 How long is now sought to complete the installation of the package plant and the construction of the pipeline to the proposed wetland. Mr Crawford's evidence stated 32 months was required. This included 12 months to characterise wastewater inflows. Given over 12 months has passed since the original hearing, the characterisation of the wastewater inflows should be completed. This in turn should mean that completion of the package plant and the construction of the pipeline to the proposed wetland will now be approximately 24 months. If not, please explain why not.
- 2.5 The evidence tabled at the hearing by the applicant sought a term expiring **1 July 2025**. Is that still the case? If a different term is now sought, what is the legal basis for this please?
- 2.6 The proposed constructed wetland is to "polish" the wastewater prior to discharging to the Makakahi River. Given that the wetland is to be part of the treatment process what standards would be appropriate to apply to the discharge prior to discharging to the Makakahi to ensure the wetland remains efficient? For such standards, what lead in time would be appropriate for the wetland to become operational?
- 2.7 Information provided with the application shows that wetlands can be an efficient method to remove **nitrate** from water. Given that much of the Soluble Inorganic Nitrogen (SIN) in the discharge is ammoniacal nitrogen, is it possible for the applicant to increase the nitrate concentration (decreasing ammoniacal-nitrogen concentration) in the discharge prior to discharging to wetland, therefore reducing the SIN load discharged to the Makakahi River?

2.8 The applicant has provided information on the reduction in loads discharged to the Makakahi River as a result of the treatment provided by the wetland. These reductions will have been based on an efficiency of the wetland in removing contaminants. Could information please be provided as to the efficiency rate used, whether this varies between seasons and if such an efficiency rate would be appropriate as a potential condition of consent?

3 Any questions about this memorandum or the directions given should be directed to Carina Hickey at Horizons Regional Council. She will confer with the Commissioners as necessary.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent Cowie". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Signed by Brent Cowie (Chair)
on behalf of the Hearing Panel

29 October 2018