

**IN THE MATTER OF**

The Resource Management Act 1991

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

An application made to Manawatu-Wanganui (Horizons) Regional Council (MWRC) (Consent Authority)

**BY**

**TARARUA DISTRICT COUNCIL**

(the Applicant)

For the hearing of **APP-1993001253.02** for resource consents associated with the operation of the Pahiatua Wastewater Treatment Plant, including a discharge into Town Creek (initially), then to the Mangatainoka River, a discharge to air (principally odour), and a discharge to land via pond seepage, Julia Street, Pahiatua.

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**MEMORANDUM 3 TO PARTICPANTS**

**Directions**

15 May 2017

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## **PURPOSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM**

- 1 The purpose of this memorandum is to seek a response to questions that have arisen from our reading of the pre-circulated evidence of parties who are either unable to attend the hearing, or subject to their response to our questions, are not required.

## **DIRECTIONS**

- 2 We understand that Mr Adam Canning, for Fish and Game New Zealand, is unable to attend the hearing. We ask that he responds to the following questions:
  - a. In respect of Figure 1 on page 4 of Mr Canning's evidence:
    - i) Whereabouts in the Mangatainoka River were the Figure 1 measurements made?
    - ii) If that is the type of pattern that might be caused by the Pahiatua WWTP discharge, how far downstream might it extend?
  - b. Mr Canning makes two differing statements about the effects of nutrients on periphyton growth:
    - i) At the end of paragraph 7a Mr Canning's evidence agrees with Dr Ausseil that periphyton in the Mangatainoka River is likely to be phosphorus limited.
    - ii) In paragraphs 7dii and 7fiv the evidence says that both SIN and DRP must be reduced to very low concentrations to achieve the One Plan MCI target.

Based on those comments, what is Mr Canning's view of the effect on periphyton growth arising from TDCs proposed reduction in phosphorus concentrations in the WWTP discharge, assuming that the current effects from land use and other discharges continue as they are now? i.e. will there be a beneficial improvement in the periphyton situation?

- 3 While we do not see a need for the Regional Council experts Deborah Ryan (Air) and Tim Baker (Groundwater) and Greg Bevin (Earthworks) to attend the hearing, we have questions for Mr Baker and Mr Bevin which also require a written response.

**Tim Baker**

- a. Can he please provide an aerial photo showing the TDC property boundary, the location of the lined and unlined parts of the proposed wetland and the location of his proposed monitoring bores. If the proposed monitoring bores are not on TDC land, who is the land owner?
- b. In paragraph 17b of his S42A report he notes that Town Creek is spring-fed. In his schematic cross-section in Attachment B of his report Town Creek is shown as sitting above the water table, so it is not spring-fed at that location. Can he provide a map showing the extent of Town Creek and the likely areas where it is spring fed. Based on this is it likely that seepage from the oxidation ponds will enter Town Creek?

**Greg Bevin**

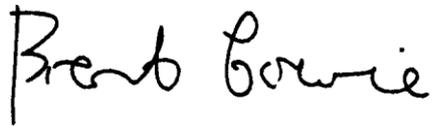
- a. Regarding the Site Risk Assessment Matrix in Appendix 1 of his memo, what were the classifications on the Columns and Rows to reach the reported “Low Risk”? i.e. what was the classification of the “Value of Receiving Environment” and the “Risk of discharge into receiving environment”.

4 We request that the responses to our questions are provided to Ms Carina Hickey no later **4 pm Friday 19 May 2017.**

5 The responses will be circulated as soon as possible once they are received and will also be uploaded onto the Council website:

<http://www.horizons.govt.nz/managing-natural-resources/consents/tararua-district-council-pahiatua-eketahuna-wastew>

6 Any questions about this memorandum or the directions given should be directed to Carina Hickey at Horizons Regional Council via email ([carina.hickey@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:carina.hickey@horizons.govt.nz)). 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

15 May 2017