

Notes for track changes. Recommendations made by the Infrastructure, Energy, and Waste Officer's Report are shown in **Green**. Recommendations made in the Infrastructure, Energy, and Waste Officer's Supplementary Report are shown in **Red**. Words recommended to be added are shown in underline, words recommended to be removed are shown in ~~strike through~~.

Terms defined within the Plan Glossary are *italicised* and marked with a '*' symbol. Terms defined in the RMA are *italicised* and marked with a '^' symbol.

3 **Infrastructure[^], Energy, and Waste^{*}, Hazardous Substances^{*} and Contaminated Land^{^1}**

3.1 **Scope and Background**

This chapter details with how activities involving *infrastructure[^]*, *renewable energy[^]*, *waste^{*}*, *hazardous substances^{*}* and *contaminated land[^]* will be addressed. In general, this chapter provides broad policy guidance for managing these activities in other chapters in Part 1 and Part II of this Plan. Where appropriate, specific² policies relating to these activities is integrated into the resource-based chapters of this Plan. ~~Specific policies developed by Horizons for these activities are detailed in this chapter.~~²

Infrastructure[^]

Horizons The Regional Council recognises that some *infrastructure[^]* is regionally and nationally important. *Infrastructure[^]* can have adverse effects[^] on the environment[^] and other activities can have adverse effects[^] on *infrastructure[^]*. The establishment, operation^{*}, maintenance^{*} and upgrading^{*} of *infrastructure[^]* and *infrastructure[^]* corridors is critical to the viability and growth of the Region.²

There can be logistical or technical constraints on where *infrastructure[^]* must be located to serve communities and operate efficiently.² ~~Horizons The Regional Council~~ wants to ensure the benefits of *infrastructure[^]* are recognised and appropriately weighed along with other matters in decision-making processes, and effects are balanced and managed appropriately.²

The electricity transmission network is recognised as a matter of national significance by the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission (2008).²

~~*Infrastructure[^]* includes road[^] and rail networks, energy networks for electricity, oil^{*} and gas, facilities for energy generation, water supply and wastewater networks, drainage systems, telecommunications, airports, ports, and any other network utility operations. *Infrastructure[^]* has significant community benefit.~~²

Renewable e Energy²

~~Horizons recognises it has a requirement to provide for development of renewable energy resources and using renewable energy.~~² Government has developed energy strategies and made changes to the RMA to encourage *energy efficiency^{*}* and greater uptake of *renewable energy[^]* over use of non-renewable resources.

The Government has made a commitment to reduce New Zealand's greenhouse gas emissions and to achieve increasingly sustainable energy use. This

¹ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 1A

² Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 2A

commitment is expressed by the inclusion of sections 7(ba),7(i) and 7(j) in the RMA in 2004 and in national strategy and policy documents including:

- The New Zealand Energy Strategy to 2050 (2007)
- The New Zealand National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (2007)
- Proposed National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation (2008)²

The Government's current target is for 90% of New Zealand's electricity generation to be from *renewable energy* resources by 2025. Collectively these policy instruments seek to achieve economy-wide improvements in the efficiency of energy use and an increase in the supply of energy from *renewable energy* resources.²

Given these national policy directives and the presence of significant *renewable energy* resources with the potential for development in the Region, the Regional Council. The Regional Council recognises it needs to provide for development of *renewable energy* resources and using *renewable energy*.²

The development and use of renewable electricity generation facilities face a number ~~One~~ of the barriers ~~facing development of *renewable energy*~~ that includes the difficulty in securing access to natural resources as well as functional, operational and technical factors that constrain the location, layout, design and generation potential of *renewable energy* facilities.²

Waste**, *hazardous substances** and *contaminated land

~~Horizons~~ The Regional Council recognises the need to focus on the full life cycle of *waste** from generation to disposal, and that *waste** is a wasted resource.

~~Horizons~~ The Regional Council and the Region's *territorial authorities* have similar responsibilities for the control of adverse *effects* from the storage, transport, use and disposal of *hazardous substances**. These responsibilities need to be clarified to prevent overlaps, gaps and inconsistencies.

~~Horizons~~ The Regional Council also has responsibilities for identifying and monitoring *contaminated land* and *territorial authorities* are responsible for the "prevention or mitigation of any adverse *effects* of the development, subdivision, or use of *contaminated land*" (ss 30(1)(ca) and 31(1)(b)(iia) RMA).

The New Zealand Waste Strategy (Ministry for the Environment, 2002) sets voluntary national targets for *waste** minimisation, organic *wastes**, special *wastes**, construction and demolition *wastes**, *hazardous wastes*, *contaminated sites**, organochlorines, trade *wastes** and *waste** disposal.

3.2 Issues

Issue 3-1: ***Infrastructure* and *energy***³

There is potential for concerns about local adverse *effects* to prevail over recognition of the *benefits, including* regional and national benefits of *developing establishing infrastructure*. ~~and *renewable energy*~~ There is also potential for *other activities to constrain the operation*, maintenance* or upgrading* of infrastructure*.³

³ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 3A

Issue 3-1A: Energy

Energy conservation and *energy efficiency** are important but alone will not be sufficient to meet future energy demands. If consumption of non-renewable energy resources is to be reduced or avoided, there will need to be an increase in the use of *renewable energy*^ resources.³

Issue 3-2: *Waste, *hazardous substances** and *contaminated land*^ *sites*⁴**

The increasing production of *waste** and use of *hazardous substances** in the Region has resulted in:

- (i) wasted resources and an increasing need for appropriate disposal
- (ii) some⁴ unsafe use, storage, disposal and transportation of *hazardous substances**
- (iii) some⁴ *land*^ becoming contaminated to the point it poses a risk to people and the *environment*^.

3.3**Objectives****Objective 3-1: *Infrastructure*^ and *energy*⁵**

The benefits of *infrastructure*^ will be recognised by providing for the establishment of new *infrastructure*^ and allowing the *operation**, *maintenance** and *upgrading** of existing *infrastructure*^⁵

This objective relates to Issue 3-1

~~Resource use activities associated with the provision, maintenance and upgrading of *infrastructure*, and/or with the use of *renewable energy*, will be recognised and enabled.~~⁵

~~Whāinga 3-1: — Ngā kaupapa o raro me te pūngao
Ka tohua, ka whakamanatia ngā ngohe whakamahi rauemi o pā ana ki te tuku, te tiaki me te whakapai ake i ngā kaupapa o raro, te whakamahi pūngao ka taea te whakahou hoki/rānei.~~

Objective 3-1A: *Energy*⁵

There will be an increase in the use of *renewable energy*^ resources and an improvement in *energy efficiency**.⁵

This objective relates to Issue 3-1A

[Once the final decisions have been made regarding this chapter the Maori translation of this objective will be inserted here]

⁴ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 4A

⁵ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 6A

Objective 3-2: Waste*, hazardous substances* and contaminated land^ sites⁶

~~The Regional Council Horizons~~ and ~~Territorial Authorities^~~ shall will work together in a regionally consistent way to:

- (i) minimise the quantity of waste* requiring disposal in the Region and ensure it is disposed of appropriately
- (ii) manage adverse effects^ from the use, storage, disposal and transportation of hazardous substances*
- (iii) manage adverse effects^ from contaminated land^.

This objective relates to Issue 3-2

Whāinga 3-2: Te para, ngā matū mōrearea, me ngā wāhi tāhawahawa

Ka mahi tahi a Horizons me Territorial Authorities^ i runga i te tikanga rite ki te:

- (i) Whakaiti i te rahi o te para kia whakawāteatia huri noa i te Rohe, kia tika hoki te whakawātea
- (ii) Whakahaere i ngā pānga kōaro nā te whakamahi, te putu, te whakawātea, me te kawē i ngā matū mōrearea, me te
- (iii) Whakahaere i ngā pānga kōaro nō te whenua tāhawahawa.

3.4 Policies

3.4.1 Infrastructure^

Policy 3-1: Benefits of infrastructure^

- (a) ~~All persons exercising functions and powers under the RMA~~ The Regional Council and territorial authorities^ shall recognise the following infrastructure^⁷ within the Region as being physical resources of regional ~~and or~~ national importance:
 - (i) facilities for the generation of more than 1 MW of electricity and its supporting infrastructure^⁷ where the electricity generated is supplied to the electricity transmission and distribution networks grid and facilities and infrastructure to transmit the electricity generated into the electricity grid⁷
 - ~~(ii) the electricity grid, as defined as the system of transmission lines, substations and other works, including the HVDC link used to connect grid injection points and grid exit points to convey electricity throughout the North and South Island by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003~~⁸
 - (iii) ~~The National Grid and E~~electricity⁸ distribution and transmission⁸ networks defined as the system of transmission lines,⁸ sub-transmission and distribution feeders (6.6kV and above) and all associated substations and other works⁸ to convey electricity
 - (iv) Pipelines,⁸ and gas facilities used for the transmission and distribution⁸ of natural, and manufactured gas⁷

⁶ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 7A

⁷ Officer's report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 9, Page 112

⁸ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 9A

- (v) the strategic road[^] and rail network as mapped defined⁸ in the Regional Land Transport Strategy
 - (vi) the Palmerston North and Wanganui Airports[^]
 - (vii) the RNZAF airport[^] at airfield in Ohakea
 - (viii) telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities
 - (ix) community wastewater and water public sewerage treatment plants and associated sewerage systems managed by Territorial Authorities[^].
 - (x) Public water supply^{*} treatment plants and distribution systems
 - ~~(xi) Flood protection and drainage schemes managed by a local authority~~⁸
 - (xii) Port of Wanganui⁷
- (b) ~~In making decisions about The Regional Council and territorial authorities~~[^] shall, in relation to the establishment, operation^{*}, maintenance^{*}, alteration, and upgrading^{*}, and expansion of infrastructure[^] within the Region, including the infrastructure[^] of regional and national importance listed in subsection (a), recognise and provide for the benefits derived from the infrastructure[^]. ~~at a local, regional and national level shall be taken into account.~~⁸
- (c) The Regional Council and territorial authorities[^] shall manage ~~E~~existing and future infrastructure[^] ~~shall be managed~~⁸ in a manner which achieves as much consistency across local authority[^] boundaries as is reasonably possible.

This policy relates to Issue 3-1 and Objective 3-1

Policy 3-2: Adverse effects[^] of other activities on infrastructure[^]

The Regional Council and territorial authorities[^] shall ensure that ~~A~~adverse effects[^] on infrastructure[^] from other activities ~~on infrastructure shall be~~ are avoided, including⁹ by using the following mechanisms:

- (a) ensuring that current infrastructure[^] corridors are identified and taken into account in all resource management decision-making, and any development that ~~will~~ would adversely affect operation^{*}, maintenance^{*} and upgrading^{*} ~~the efficiency or effectiveness~~⁹ of infrastructure[^] within these corridors is avoided
- (b) ensuring that any new activities that ~~will~~ would adversely affect the operation^{*}, maintenance^{*} and upgrading^{*} ~~efficiency or effectiveness~~ of infrastructure[^] are not located near existing infrastructure[^] or infrastructure[^] allowed by unimplemented resource consents[^] or other RMA authorisations⁹
- ~~(ba) ensuring that there is no change to existing activities that increases their incompatibility with existing infrastructure~~[^] or infrastructure[^] allowed by unimplemented resource consents[^] or other RMA authorisations.⁹
- (c) notifying the owners[^] or managers of infrastructure[^] of consent applications that may adversely affect the infrastructure[^] that they own or manage
- (d) giving effect to the New Zealand Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34:2001), prepared under the Electricity Act 1992, when establishing rules[^] and considering applications for buildings,

⁹ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 10A

structures[^], and other activities near overhead electric lines and conductors

- (e) giving effect to the operating code standard for Pipelines - Gas and Liquid Petroleum (NZS/AS2885), when establishing rules[^] and considering applications for buildings, structures[^] and other activities near transmission gas pipelines¹⁰
- (f) ensuring that any planting does not interfere with existing infrastructure[^], including giving effect to the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003 promulgated under the Electricity Act 1992 and Section 6.4.4 External Interference Prevention of the operating code standard for Pipelines - Gas and Liquid Petroleum (NZS/AS 2885).¹⁰
- (g) Ensuring providing for the strategic integration of infrastructure[^] with land[^] use in growth areas of the Region, including effective integration of transport and land[^] use planning in growth areas of the Region, including and protecting the function of the strategic road[^] and rail network as mapped in the Regional Land Transport Strategy.⁹

This policy relates to Issue 3-1 and Objective 3-1

Policy 3-3: Adverse effects[^] of infrastructure[^] on the environment

In managing any adverse environmental effects[^] arising from the establishment, operation^{*}, maintenance^{*} and upgrading^{*} of infrastructure[^], the Regional Council and territorial authorities[^] shall:¹¹

- (a) allow the operation^{*}, maintenance^{*} and upgrading^{*} of all infrastructure[^] once it has been established, no matter where it is located¹¹
- (b) allow minor adverse effects[^] arising from the establishment of new infrastructure[^]¹¹
- (c) avoid, remedy or mitigate more than minor adverse effects arising from the establishment of new infrastructure in the same manner as these effects would be avoided, remedied or mitigated for other types of activities unless this is impracticable due to functional, operational or technical constraints, in which case the following matters shall be taken into account:
 - (i) the need for the infrastructure;
 - (ii) the extent to which adverse effects can be practicably avoided, remedied or mitigated, including whether there are any practicable alternatives to the proposed location and design of the infrastructure; and
 - (iii) whether a financial contribution should be sought to offset or compensate for adverse effects that cannot be adequately avoided, remedied or mitigated.¹¹

This policy relates to Issue 3-1 and Objective 3-1

¹⁰ Officer's report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 10, page 124

¹¹ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 11A

~~When making decisions on consent applications regarding *infrastructure*[^], the adverse effects of *infrastructure*[^] on the environment shall be managed in the following manner:¹¹~~

~~(a) **Effects to be avoided** – The following¹² adverse effects of *infrastructure*^{*} on: shall be avoided to the same extent required of other types of activities:^{12 11}~~

- ~~(i) effects on¹² *waahi tapu*^{*}, *waahi tupuna*^{*} and other sites of significance to Māori~~
- ~~(ii) effects on¹² specified waterways valued for natural state and sites of significance (aquatic)~~
- ~~(iii) effects on¹² rare and threatened habitats as defined in Chapter 7~~
- ~~(iv) effects on¹² the outstanding natural features and landscapes identified in Chapter 7~~
- ~~(v) effects on¹² protection zones in the *coastal marine area*[^] as identified in Chapter 9.¹¹~~

~~Shall be managed in the same manner as other types of activities.¹² unless functional constraints require them to locate in those areas¹² make this impossible, in which case adverse effects should be mitigated. Mitigation may include the use of financial contributions in accordance with the policies in Chapter 18.¹¹~~

~~(b) **Other effects** – All other adverse effects of *infrastructure*[^] will be managed in a manner that tolerates minor adverse local effects and takes into account:¹¹~~

- ~~(i) the benefits of *infrastructure*[^], particularly the benefits of regionally or nationally important *infrastructure*[^]~~
- ~~(ii) the integration of the *infrastructure*[^] with land use~~
- ~~(iii) the benefits to be derived from the use and development of *renewable energy*[^].¹¹~~

~~A financial contribution may be sought in order to provide the option of offsetting or compensating for adverse effects, rather than requiring adverse effects to be avoided, remedied or mitigated, in accordance with the policies for financial contributions in Chapter 18 of this Plan.¹¹~~

3.4.2

Energy

Policy 3-4: *Renewable energy*[^]

~~(a) All persons[^] exercising functions and powers under the RMA. The Regional Council and territorial authorities[^]¹³ shall have particular regard to:¹²~~

- ~~i. The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of¹² the use and development of¹³ *renewable energy*[^] resources¹² including:¹³~~
 - ~~• contributing to reduction in greenhouse gases~~
 - ~~• reduced dependency on imported energy sources~~

¹² Officer's report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 11, Page 155

¹³ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 12A

- reduced exposure to fossil fuel price volatility
 - security of supply for current and future generations¹³
 - ii. The Manawatu-Wanganui Region's potential for the use and development of renewable energy resources¹³¹²
 - iii. The need for renewable energy activities facilities¹³ to locate where the renewable energy resource is located¹²
- (aa) The Regional Council and territorial authorities¹³ shall give preference to the ¹³development of renewable energy¹² generation and use of renewable energy¹² resources ~~shall be preferred~~¹³ to the development and use of non-renewable energy¹² resources in policy development and resource consent¹² decision making.
- (b) ~~Local authority decisions and controls on land use should~~ The Regional Council and territorial authorities¹³ shall generally not restrict the use of small domestic-scale renewable energy¹² production for individual domestic use.

This policy relates to Issue 3-1 and Objective 3-1A

Policy 3-5: Energy efficiency*

- (a) The Regional Council and territorial authorities¹³ shall take into account efficient use of energy ~~shall be taken into account~~ in consent decision-making processes for large users of energy.
- (b) ~~Local Territorial authority~~ Local Territorial authority¹³ decisions and controls on subdivision and housing, including layout of the site and layout of the lots in relation to other houses/subdivisions, ~~should~~ shall encourage energy-efficient house design and access to solar energy.
- (c) ~~Local Territorial authority~~ Local Territorial authority¹³ decisions and controls on subdivision and land use ~~should~~ shall ensure that sustainable transport options such as public transport, walking and cycling can be integrated into land use development.

This Policy relates to Issue 3-1 and Objective 3-1A

3.4.3

Waste*

Policy 3-6: Waste* policy hierarchy

Wastes*, including solid, liquid, gas and sludge waste*, shall be managed in accordance with the following hierarchy:

- (a) reducing the amount of waste* produced
- (b) reusing waste*
- (c) recycling waste*
- (d) recovering resources from waste*
- (e) appropriately disposing of residual wastes*

[This policy relates to Issue 3-2 and Objective 3-2](#)

Policy 3-7: Consent information requirements – waste* policy hierarchy and hazardous substances*

An assessment shall be required, as part of the consent information requirements for all *discharges* to air, *land*, *water* and the *coastal marine area*, of:

- (a) reduction, reuse, recycle and recovery options for the *discharge* in accordance with Policy 3-6
- (b) any *hazardous substances** that may be present in the *discharge*, and alternatives to those *hazardous substances**.

[This policy relates to Issue 3-2 and Objective 3-2](#)

Policy 3-8: Cleanfills*, composting* and other waste*-reduction activities

Waste* reduction activities will be encouraged, in particular by generally allowing *cleanfills** and *composting** operations.

[This policy relates to Issue 3-2 and Objective 3-2](#)

Policy 3-9: Landfill* management

*Landfills** shall generally be designed, constructed, managed, operated, remediated and monitored in line with appropriate guidelines and national environmental standards. Taking into account the applicability of these guidelines and standards in relation to the type and scale of activity proposed, the following guidelines may be considered appropriate:¹⁴

- (a) [Centre for Advanced Engineering, Landfill Guidelines, April 2000.](#)
- (b) [Ministry for the Environment, Module 1: Hazardous Waste Guidelines. Identification and Record Keeping, June 2002, ME367.](#)
- (c) [Ministry for the Environment, Module 2: Hazardous Waste Guidelines. Landfill Waste Acceptance Criteria and Landfill Classification, May 2004, ME510.](#)
- (d) [Ministry for the Environment, A Guide to the Management of Cleanfills, January 2002, ME418.](#)
- (e) [Ministry for the Environment, A Guide to the Management of Closing and Closed Landfills in New Zealand, May 2001, ME390.](#)
- (f) [Ministry for the Environment, Guide to Landfill Conditions, May 2001, ME389.](#)
- (g) [Ministry for the Environment, Good Practice Guide for Assessing and Managing the Environmental Effects of Dust Emissions, September 2001.](#)
- (h) [Landfill gas collection and destruction or reuse as per the Resource Management \(National Environmental Standards Relating to Certain Air Pollutants, Dioxins and other Toxics\) Regulations 2004.](#)¹⁴

¹⁴ Officer's report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 17, Page 199

This policy relates to Issue 3-2 and Objective 3-2

- (a) ~~Guidelines, May 2004, Ref. ME510~~
- (b) ~~Ministry for the Environment, Module 1: Hazardous Waste Guidelines – Identification and Record-keeping June 2002, Ref. ME637~~
- (c) ~~Ministry for the Environment, Waste Acceptance Criteria for Class A Landfills – Final Report, September 2003, Ref. TR131~~
- (d) ~~Ministry for the Environment, Good Practice Guide for Assessing and Managing Odour in New Zealand, June 2003~~
- (e) ~~Ministry for the Environment, Good Practice Guide for Assessing and Managing the Environmental Effects of Dust Emissions, September 2004~~
- (f) ~~Landfill* gas collection and destruction or reuse as per the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards Relating to Certain Air Pollutants, Dioxins and Other Toxics) Regulations 2004.~~¹⁴

3.4.4 **Hazardous Substances***

Policy 3-10: Responsibilities for the management of hazardous substances*

In accordance with s62(1)(i) RMA, *local authority*[△] responsibilities for the management of *hazardous substances** in the ~~Manawatu-Wanganui~~ Region are as follows:

- (a) The Regional Council shall be responsible for developing objectives, policies and methods to control the use of *land*[△] for the purpose of preventing or mitigating the adverse effects of the disposal of *hazardous substances**
- (b) *Territorial Authorities*[△] shall be responsible for developing objectives, policies and methods to control the use of *land*[△] for the purpose of preventing or mitigating the adverse *effects*[△] of the storage, use or transportation of *hazardous substances**.

This policy relates to Issue 3-2 and Objective 3-2

Policy 3-11: Regulation of hazardous substances*

~~The Regional Council shall not grant Resource consents[△] will not be granted~~ for *discharges*[△] that contain or result in the production of environmentally persistent hazardous chemicals or hazardous chemicals that will bioaccumulate to a level that has acute or chronic toxic effects on humans or other non-target species.

This policy relates to Issue 3-2 and Objective 3-2

3.4.5 **Contaminated Land[△]**

Policy 3-12: Identification of priority contaminated land[△]

The Regional Council and territorial authorities[△] shall jointly identify priority contaminated land[△]¹⁵ ~~by 2008.~~¹⁶

¹⁵ Officer's Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 20A

Priority *contaminated land* shall be *land* that:

- (a) is listed on a register of *contaminated land* held by the Regional Council or a ~~Territorial Authority~~, or
- (b) would have been the site* of an activity identified on the Hazardous Activities and Industries List (Ministry for the Environment, 2004a) in the past, including horticulture and sheep dips, and¹⁵
- (c) is expected likely to be subject to a change of *land* use within the next 10 years ~~that is -in particular to residential subdivision,~~ likely to increase the risks to human health or the *environment*, eg., *land* identified for future residential zoning or where a specific development is proposed¹⁵

~~The Regional Council and Territorial Authorities will jointly identify priority contaminated land~~¹⁵ ~~by 2008.~~¹⁶

Policy 3-13: Management of priority *contaminated land*

Where *land* use changes are likely to increase the risks to human health or the *environment* from priority *contaminated land* (as identified under Policy 3-12) the developer shall:

- (a) fully investigate the extent and degree of contamination prior to the granting of consent allowing development (assistance with investigations may be provided by the Regional Council in some cases)
- (b) ensure *land* is “fit for purpose” through an appropriate level of remediation or management (including engineering) controls ~~remediate the site to an appropriate level prior to any development occurring~~¹⁷
- (c) ensure *land* remains “fit for purpose” through undertake adequate appropriate ongoing monitoring of residual contaminant levels and associated risks and/or requirement for management controls.¹⁷

3.5 Methods

Many of the policies in this chapter will be implemented by ~~Territorial Authorities~~ in *district plans* and in decisions on *resource consents* and designations. The policies in this chapter will also be implemented by methods in other chapters in this Plan.

Managing the environmental impacts of *waste**, *hazardous substances** and contaminated *sites** is a mix of regulatory and non-regulatory approaches. Part II of this Plan contains *regional rules* relating to the *waste** activities described in this chapter. The key non-regulatory methods the Regional Council will pursue are outlined below.

Project Name Method 3-1	Regional Territorial Authority <i>Waste</i> * Forum
Project Description	The aim of this <u>project method</u> is to work with the Territorial Authorities

¹⁶ Officer’s report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 20, Page 209

¹⁷ Officer’s Supplementary report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 21A

	<p>to achieve a regionally consistent approach to <i>waste*</i> and to progress <i>Region-wide waste*</i> issues and implement agreed initiatives, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>hazardous waste*</i> disposal facilities • recycling facilities • resource recovery network/ <i>waste*</i> exchange • public information • <i>waste*</i> education in schools • consistent <i>waste*</i> data collection and reporting • development of <i>Region-wide waste*</i> reduction targets in line with the New Zealand Waste Strategy 2002 • <i>cleanfill*</i> management and monitoring • <i>waste*</i> minimisation and cleaner production in business/trade sectors • economic instruments including incentives for <i>waste*</i> reduction.
Who	Regional Council and <i>Territorial Authorities</i>
Links to Policy	This <i>project method</i> links to Policies 3-6, 3-8 and 3-10.
Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Regional <i>Territorial Authority</i> Waste* Forum • Implement initiatives • Report to central Government on New Zealand Waste Strategy targets on a two-yearly basis.

<i>Project Name Method 3-2</i> Public Information – <i>Waste*</i>	
<i>Project</i> Description	<p>Easily accessible information will be developed and provided to increase public awareness on <i>waste*</i> issues generic to the Region, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>cleanfill*</i> management and guidelines • <i>waste*</i> minimisation • availability of <i>waste*</i> disposal and recovery facilities • fly tipping • <i>hazardous substances*</i> • burning of <i>waste*</i> • offal pits and farm dumps • septic tank <i>discharges*</i> • <i>composting*</i>.
Who	Regional Council and <i>Territorial Authorities</i>
Links to Policy	This <i>project method</i> links to Policies 3-6 and 3-10.
Target	Information provided via website and available in paper form by 2008.

<i>Project Name Method 3-3</i> Contaminated Land* – Information System	
<i>Project</i> Description	<p>The Regional Council will seek to work with <i>Territorial Authorities</i> to develop and implement a regionally consistent recording and category system and a procedure for the consistent handling of information for registered <i>contaminated land*</i>. Appropriate information will be supplied on land information memoranda.</p> <p>A regional register of <i>contaminated land*</i> will be maintained and updated.</p>
Who	Regional Council, <i>Territorial Authorities</i> and Ministry for the Environment.
Links to Policy	This <i>project method</i> links to Policies 3-12 and 3-13.
Targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regionally consistent recording and category system implemented by all <i>Territorial Authorities</i> by 2010 • Regional selected land[^] use register linking to appropriate information held by <i>Territorial Authorities</i> by 2010.

Project Name Method 3-4 Contaminated Land* – Identification of Priority Sites	
Project Description	The Regional Council, together with Territorial Authorities , will identify areas of <i>land</i> where pressure for residential development exists and those areas where there is potential for <i>contaminated land</i> issues according to previous <i>land</i> use activities listed on the Hazardous Activities and Industries List (Ministry for the Environment, 2004a), in particular horticultural sites and sheep dip sites.
Who	Regional Council, Territorial Authorities , and Ministry for the Environment.
Links to Policy	This project method links to Policy 3-12.
Target	Pressure areas identified by 2008.

3.6 Anticipated Environmental Results

Anticipated Environmental Result	Link to Policy	Indicator	Data Source
This Plan is perceived as even-handed by resource users in the way it deals with existing and development of <i>infrastructure</i> and <i>renewable energy</i> activities.	Policies: 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4 and 3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer satisfaction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horizons' Regional Council's customer surveys
By 2017, there will be a net reduction in the damage to <i>critical infrastructure</i> caused by hill country and coastal wind erosion in the Region.	Policies: 3-1, 3-2 and 3-3. Policies: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4 and 5-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs of storm damage Costs of wind erosion in coastal <i>environment</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horizons' Regional Council's and Territorial Authorities incidents databases Horizons' Regional Council's and Territorial Authorities storm damage reports The NZ Transport Agency Transit New Zealand¹⁸
By 2017, the amount of residual <i>waste</i> * generated in the Manawatu-Wanganui Region will be less than prior to this Plan becoming <i>operative</i> .	Policies: 3-6, 3-7, 3-8 and 3-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume or weight of residual <i>waste</i>* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Territorial Authority monitoring of <i>solid waste</i>* strategies
No "clean" <i>sites</i> * prior to this Plan becoming <i>operative</i> will become contaminated by 2017.	Policies: 3-7, 3-8, 3-9, 3-10, 3-11 and 3-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of clean <i>sites</i>* becoming contaminated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional register of <i>contaminated land</i>* Horizons' Regional Council's incidents database
Priority <i>contaminated sites</i> * are remediated appropriately prior to change in <i>land</i> use.	Policies: 3-12 and 3-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of remediated <i>sites</i>* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional register of <i>contaminated land</i>*

¹⁸ Officer's report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 29, Page 238

3.7 Explanations and Principal Reasons

3.7.1 *Infrastructure* and energy

Objective 3-1 and Policies 3-1 to 3-5 have been adopted to recognise the benefits of *infrastructure* and having it well integrated with other *land* uses, and to recognise and provide for *renewable energy* and *energy efficiency* measures. The policies on *infrastructure* aim to give guidance to decision-makers about how to weigh up the local adverse *effects* of *infrastructure* against the positive regional and national benefits. They also aim to provide guidance on how to avoid adverse *effects* on important *infrastructure* through the inappropriate use of *land* near or adjoining important *infrastructure*. The policies regarding *energy efficiency* and *renewable energy* seek to recognise the benefits to be derived from the use and development of *renewable energy*, and the efficient use of energy and resources (both of which are matters to be had in particular regard in Part II of the [RMA Resource Management Act 1991](#)).

Parts of Policies 3-1, 3-2 and 3-5 are included to give effect to parts of the Regional Land Transport Strategy, which seeks to protect the strategic transport network and create opportunity for the uptake of public transport options in the future.

3.7.2 *Waste*

Objective 3-2, Policies 3-6, 3-7, 3-8 and 3-9 and associated methods set up an overarching policy framework for reducing *waste* generation and managing the environmental effects of *waste* discharges to air, *land* and *water*.

The Stocktake on Waste Report (Horizons Regional Council, 2004) was a first regional attempt to assess the amount and type of *waste* generated in the Region, and the current level of existing *waste* reduction and reuse opportunities. The report indicated that approximately 22 years of *landfill* space remains in the Region, based on current disposal rates. Looking ahead, possible scenarios include:

- (a) the establishment of more *landfills* for both domestic and industrial *waste*, with associated environmental *effects*
- (b) increased costs associated with limited disposal *space* or transport and disposal outside the Region
- (c) reducing the amount of *waste* generated to enable remaining *landfill* space to last longer.

Policy 3-6 establishes a hierarchy of reducing, reusing, recycling, recovering and finally disposing of *waste*. Policies 3-6, 3-7, 3-8 and 3-9 together encourage reduction, reuse and recycling activities by being less restrictive and discouraging *waste* disposal as a first option. This framework is encouraged at the national level by the New Zealand Waste Strategy (Ministry for the Environment, 2002). Policy 3-9 also sets high standards for *landfills*, reflecting the significant adverse *effects* that *waste* disposal can have on the *environment*.

Territorial Authorities are required to develop *waste* management strategies under the Local Government Act 2002 and, along with private operators, to provide and manage *waste* disposal services. It is appropriate that the Regional Council works with the *Territorial Authorities* on the Region's generic *waste* issues, to provide a consistent approach to *waste* management and *waste* minimisation where possible.

Public information on the appropriate disposal of *wastes** and opportunities for reduction, reuse and recycling are key to reducing *waste** to *landfill*[^] into the future.

3.7.3

Hazardous Substances*

Objective 3-2, Policies 3-10 and 3-11 and the associated methods set up the policy framework for managing the effects of the storage, use, transport and disposal of *hazardous substances** in the Region as required under s 62(1)(i) of the [RMA Resource Management Act 1991](#).

The Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 provides a definition of *hazardous substances**. These substances pose a significant threat to the *environment*[^] if not stored, used, transported and disposed of safely and appropriately. The Regional Council considers that it is in an appropriate position to control the *effects*[^] of the *discharge*[^] of *hazardous substances** to the *environment*[^] by means of the resource consenting process. This enables an assessment of the environmental *effects*[^] of *hazardous substance discharges*[^] to air, *land*[^] and *water*[^] on a case-by-case basis. *Regional rules*[^] are an effective means of controlling the *effects*[^] of these substances. ~~*Territorial Authorities*~~[^] are considered to be in an appropriate position to manage the storage, use and transport of *hazardous substances** through their district planning provisions.

The Stockholm Convention, to which New Zealand is a signatory, aims to rid the world of *persistent organic pollutants**. Many of these are *hazardous substances** previously used in old *agrichemicals**. Despite the Regional Council providing a comprehensive old *agrichemicals** collection in 1996, there is likely to be a risk posed by old *agrichemicals** still stored on farms. The Regional Council and the Ministry for the Environment are committed to providing a further collection of old *agrichemicals**.

3.7.4

Contaminated Land*

Objective 3-2, Policies 3-12 and 3-13, and the associated methods set up the policy framework for managing *contaminated land** in the Region, including an approach to determining priority sites* and a process to establish a consistent information system across the Region.

The consistent management and appropriate remediation of *contaminated land** is of national concern because of the significant threat these sites pose to the *environment*[^].

*Contaminated land** is any *site** where past (or present) activities have left a *hazardous substance** that has, or is reasonably likely to have, significant adverse *effects*[^]. In order to adequately protect people and the *environment*[^], *contaminated land** needs to be located and remediated as necessary. A number of *sites** have been located in the Region already – mainly timber treatment yards, gasworks sites, and *landfills** – and because of this can be managed appropriately as *land*[^] use changes. However, the increase in residential subdivision in rural areas in recent years means that other *contaminated land** such as horticulture and sheep dip *sites**, yet to be identified on the ground, pose a threat to people moving into those areas. These are considered priority sites*, along with sites already identified. The Regional Council will work with ~~*Territorial Authorities*~~[^] to determine where [pressure for residential development rural subdivision](#)¹⁹ is most likely in the next 10 years and to identify the risks associated with *contaminated land**.

¹⁹ Officer's report – Infrastructure, Energy and Waste – Recommendation IEW 33, Page 260

