

15 April 2009



Robyn Harrison
One Plan Hearings Administrator
Horizons Regional Council
Private Bag 11025
Palmerston North 4442

Dear Robyn

Proposed One Plan – Evidence for the General Hearing from the Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections wishes to table the following evidence to the Hearing Panel at the Hearing for the following topics: Administration and Finance; Air; Natural Hazards; Infrastructure Energy and Waste (including Management of Production Soils); and Landscapes and Natural Character.

Planning Evidence and Recommendations Report - Air

Rule 14-4 Small-scale fuel burning

The Department of Corrections sought an amendment to Rule 14-4 to allow for the discharge of contaminants into air from burning fuel, where it is for the purpose of burning green matter, in purpose-built fuel-burning equipment. Horizons Regional Council accepted our request (AIR 31), recognising the need for the Department of Corrections to be able to burn green waste within an incinerator (i.e. not open burning and not for the purpose of generating heat).

Horizons Senior Consultant Planner has recommended (AIR 31) that Rule 14-4 is amended to read as follows (words added are underlined):

14-4 Small-scale fuel burning (permitted)

The discharge of contaminants into air from burning coal, untreated wood, diesel, kerosene, light fuel oil, oil (excluding waste oil), methane, biofuels, or natural or liquefied petroleum gas for the purpose of generating useful heat, steam, power or electricity and disposal of green vegetative matter undertaken by New Zealand Police or the Department of Corrections.

Horizons Senior Consultant Planner has also accepted our further submission in support of the amendment requested by the New Zealand Police (submission point 25/4) to allow for the burning of green matter in equipment that controls the combustion process, given that this request was consistent with our requested amendment to this Rule.

Amended Rule 14-4, as shown above, specifically identifies burning by the Department of Corrections. Council Officers, while accepting our submission, have not adopted the wording that we proposed in our submission. This amended Rule makes direct reference to the burning of vegetative matter by the Department of Corrections and is not acceptable to Corrections. The Department of Corrections do not wish to be singled out for special treatment over and above other members of the wider community.

Requested Amendments:

- The Department of Corrections requests that the reference to the Department of Corrections be removed from Rule 14-4.
- The Department of Corrections notes that the recommended amendments to Rule 14-5 (AIR 32) no longer restrict the burning of vegetative matter to production land, and allow for burning away from the source of the material. We recognise that while the Department did

not make a submission on Rule 14-5, these proposed amendments address the concerns of the Department of Corrections raised in their submission. The Department of Corrections therefore do not wish to pursue any further amendments to Rule 14-4.

Should the Hearings Panel have any further questions, or seek further clarification on any of the matters raised in this letter, please feel free to contact me on (06) 350 3271, or my colleague Andrea Harris on (06) 350 2504.

Yours sincerely



Lisa Hooker
Opus International Consultants Ltd
On behalf of the Department of Corrections