
Resource Consent Application to Discharge Wastewater to Whangaehu River.

Date: 9 July 2026

To: Horizons Regional Council

Attention: Fiona Morton, Senior Consultant Planner
(Email: fiona.morton@horizons.govt.nz)

Copy: Trevor Robinson, Hearings Panel Chair
(Email: shelley.gunning@horizons.govt.nz)

From: Sukhi Singh, Technical Director Planning

Copy: Mike Ryan, CEO, Winstone Pulp International Limited

Dear Fiona,

Resource Consent Application

Winstone Pulp International Limited (“**WPI**”) is lodging a resource consent application with Horizons Regional Council (“**Horizons**”) to enable the discharge of wastewater to Whangaehu River from an industrial activity located on the Karioi wood processing facility site (“**subject site**”). The subject site is legally described as Section 3, Block XI, Karioi Survey District and is located on State Highway 49 at Karioi, approximately 8 km west of Waouru.

WPI has been working tirelessly to find a new operator for the application site, with the objective of creating new employment opportunities to offset those lost following the closure of the Karioi Pulp Mill and Tangiwai Sawmill. These efforts are directed towards revitalising the local community and supporting the wider regional economy. Obtaining a resource consent decision that enables the future operations proposed by the prospective purchaser is of critical importance to achieving these outcomes.

The key components of the resource consent application are:

- Maximum wastewater discharge volume of 750m³/day from an industrial activity to the Whangaeahu River.

Note: This is a significant improvement in the quality of the discharge and a significant reduction in volume when compared to the current approved discharge authorised for the site and the previous notified application (see below).

- The wastewater to be discharged is classified as “condensate”, produced from a wood processing plant.
- As requested by Ngāti Rangi, WPI proposes to construct a wetland system, to ensure that the wastewater is discharged into the wetland system prior to the discharge to the Whangaeahu River.
- WPI is seeking a consent duration period of 20 years.

Resource Consent Application Package

- In March 2025, WPI lodged a resource consent application to renew its wastewater water discharge consent (APP-2006012018.02). This application included a comprehensive package of documents. On 17 December 2025, section 123C of the Resource Management Act 1991 (“RMA”), reinstated the existing resource consent and extended its expiry date to 31 December 2027.
- WPI is working with a potential purchaser of the subject site, and is applying for a new wastewater discharge consent to enable the future planned operations on the subject site. This new resource consent application adopts many of the descriptions and baseline values included in the Assessment of Effects Report for Application APP-2006012018.02.
- Therefore, for ease of reference, the table below sets out the order in which the resource consent application documents should be read.

Document Number	Document Name
01	Application Form A (Administration)
02	Application Form B (Discharge to Water)
03	Application Form B (Land Disturbance)
04	Planning Report
05	Technical Memo 1 – Torrefaction Technical Memo

06	Technical Memo 2 – Water Quality Assessment
07	Technical Memo 3 – Ecology Memo
08	Technical Memo 4 – Wetland Construction – Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
09	Technical Memo 5 – Contaminated Soils – Detailed Site Investigation
10	Technical Memo 6 – Contaminated Soils – Remediation Action Plan
11	Technical Memo 7 – Air Discharge Memo
12	Technical Memo 8 – Statutory Assessment - Te Waiū-o-Te-Ika (Whangaehu River) Framework
13	Letter from Horizons - Section 92 Request for Further Information
14	Memo from WPI – Response to Section 92 Request
	Application APP-2006012018.02 Documents
15 (1)	Application APP-2006012018.02 – Assessment of Environmental Effects
15(2)	Memo from applicant – Response to Section 92 Request
15(3)	Section 92 Response – Periphyton Biomass
15(4)	Section 92 Response – Periphyton Community
15(5)	Section 92 Response – Periphyton Cover
15(6)	Section 92 Response – Water Quality
15(7)	Section 92 Response – Water Quality Monthly Data
15(8)	Section 92 Response – Water Quality
15(9)	Section 92 Response – Whangaehu Ecology Habitat
15(10)	Section 92 Response – Clarification Question
15(11)	Section 92 Response – Application Scope
15(12)	Section 92 Response – Clarification and Amendment
15(13)	Updated Modelling for Reduced Wastewater Discharge Modelling