

Form 21

Submission on the Notice of Requirement Omarunui Landfill – Hastings District Council (RMA20190573)

To: Environmental Consents Planning and Regulatory Services
Hastings District Council
Private Bag 9002
Hastings, 4156

Attention: Caleb Sutton – Environmental Consents Manager

Submission on: Notice of Requirement by the Hastings District Council as the Requiring Authority for an alteration of designation to the Omarunui Regional Landfill (D123) to provide for the construction and operation of 'Area B' for waste disposal - RMA20190573

Name of submitter: Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ)

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Attention: Aimee Brown

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Background

This submission is made on behalf of Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) concerning the Notice of Requirement for an alteration of designation D123 (Omarunui Regional Landfill).

The Fire and Emergency New Zealand Act 2017 (FENZ Act) established FENZ from 1 July 2017. FENZ has a responsibility under the FENZ Act to reduce the incidence of unwanted fire and the associated risk to life and property. As such, FENZ monitors changes in statutory planning documents occurring under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to ensure that, where necessary, appropriate consideration is given to fire safety.

FENZ's role includes promoting fire safety and fire prevention, and extinguishing fires. FENZ considers that the proposed Notice of Requirement provides an opportunity to better facilitate these activities by including provisions which will enable people and communities to provide for their health and safety with regard to fire safety, fire prevention and fire extinction.

FENZ also recognises the importance of the proposed alteration of designation D123 for enabling future waste management in the Hastings District.

The specific part of the application that FENZ submission relates to is:

- The provision for a Fire Prevention and Control Plan for Area B.

FENZ's submission is:

The Notice of Requirement seeks an Alteration the Designation of the Omarunui Regional Landfill (D123) to provide for the construction and operation of 'Area B' for waste disposal. It is understood from the Notice of Requirement that no change is proposed to the boundaries of the designation, only to the area for waste placement within the designation and the conditions applying to the designation for the use of Area B.

FENZ is supportive of the measures proposed to control fires in the instance they occur, including adequate water supplies from six 30,000 litre water tanks in close proximity to Area B, the availability of a water cart with a high-pressure hose system and the availability of fire extinguishers on site. It is also noted that the water tanks are automatically topped up from a bore supply, installed specifically to provide firefighting water storage and are fitted with connections for the firefighting hoses. Based on the above, FENZ considers that water supply for firefighting purposes has been provided for and is pleased to see that this has been well addressed by the Requiring Authority.

While FENZ considers that adequate measures will be put in place to control fires in the instance they occur, FENZ would like to see more information around measures intended to mitigate the risk of fire occurring at the landfill site. The Omarunui Landfill Operations and Maintenance Manual included in the Notice of Requirement documents notes that a Fire Prevention and Control Plan will be in place. FENZ would like to be consulted during the preparation of this plan for Area B to make sure that adequate measures are put in place to mitigate the risk of fire occurring in the landfill.

In regard to access, it is noted in the Notice of Requirement that there is an existing, permanent sealed main access road off Omarunui Road, and this will be used to access Area B, with additional access roads constructed to provide access for filling activities. It is proposed to construct a new perimeter access road to Area B from this main road. It is understood that this access road will be 8m in width, which would provide adequate access for emergency vehicles.

FENZ seeks the following:

FENZ is neutral to the Notice of Requirement. However, should Council be minded to recommend the Notice of Requirement be confirmed, FENZ requests the following condition be included in section 2.5 (Fire Protection) of the designation conditions:

2.5 Fire Protection

The Requiring Authority shall prepare an updated Fire Prevention and Control Plan for Area B in consultation with Fire and Emergency New Zealand. The Fire Prevention and Control Plan shall be updated and maintained accordingly.

FENZ could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

FENZ wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

If others make a similar submission FENZ will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.



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(Signature of person authorised to sign on behalf of Fire and Emergency New Zealand)

18/02/2021

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Date

Title and address for service of
person making submission:

Fire and Emergency New Zealand
c/o Beca Ltd

Attention: Aimee Brown

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PO Box 3942
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