

## Before Hawkes Bay Regional Council and Hastings District Council

In the matter of            the Resource Management Act 1991

And

In the matter of            Applications by Hastings District Council and Napier City Council  
(**Applicants**) for approvals relating to Area B at Ōmarunui Landfill  
(**Landfill**)

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### Summary of evidence by Martin Jarvis (Context and Consultation)

Dated 28 October 2021

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1. I am the Waste and Data Services Manager for Hastings District Council (**HDC**), and am principally responsible for the delivery of solid waste infrastructure services for the community. I manage Ōmarunui Regional Landfill (**Landfill**) on behalf of HDC and Napier City Council under the terms of a joint Heads of Agreement.
2. I prepared evidence dated 2 September 2021, addressing the capacity for waste disposal within the Hawke's Bay, alternatives to the Proposal, history of the Landfill site, waste composition and volume trends at the Landfill (including life expectancy), consultation undertaken and comment on submissions received.

#### Legislative Context and Capacity for Waste Disposal in the Hawke's Bay

3. The New Zealand Waste Strategy provides high level direction on waste management and minimisation, with the overarching goals being reducing the harmful effects of waste and improving the efficiency of resource use.
4. The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 requires territorial authorities to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within its district and to adopt a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (**WMMP**).
5. The NCC and HDC worked together to prepare a joint WMMP, with the current version covering the 2018 – 2024 period. A key target identified in that Plan is to divert as much waste as possible away from the Landfill. Steps to achieve this target include reducing

organic waste going to landfill by 30% and increasing the diversion of common recyclables away from the landfill by 20% by 2024.

6. To achieve the WMMP goals an Action Plan was developed which addresses such matters as rubbish & recycling collection, organic waste, facilities, planning controls, waste diversion, education, reporting and resources.
7. Landfill tonnages at Ōmarunui have changed dramatically over the years. In 1999/2000 just over 97,000 tonnes of waste was deposited at the site. This figure rose to 140,000 tonnes in 2004/05 before dropping to 71,000 tonnes in 2012/13. After a period of little change, tonnages started increasing again in 2016/17 and reached 108,000 tonnes in the 2020/21 year.

### **Alternatives to expansion of the Landfill**

8. In planning and understanding the future waste disposal picture for the region, HDC and NCC initiated the Waste Futures Project and established a Waste Futures Joint Committee to oversee the work. The preferred option as derived from the multi-criteria assessment was to progress with development of the next Area (B or C) at the Ōmarunui Landfill.
9. Following the Waste Futures Review, and subsequent WMMP consultation and adoption, the detailed planning work required to lodge landfilling consent applications commenced.
10. There are no other realistic landfilling sites available. The most likely option if disposal could not occur at the Landfill would be disposal at Hampton Downs Landfill, 366 km north of Napier. This would create significant costs and challenges for the community and Councils.

### **Site History**

11. The Landfill was established as a jointly owned facility when all of their existing disposal facilities reached capacity at approximately the same time. The site commenced operation in December 1988 and remains a standalone key component in managing the region's waste.
12. Four valleys on the Ōmarunui site, known as Areas A, B C and D, were identified for landfilling in the original applications in 1984. The first valley developed for the disposal of refuse was Area A and it reached capacity in 2007. The applications to develop the second valley (Area D) for landfilling were lodged (and granted) in 2004 and included the continued operation of Area A until that valley was filled to the consented profile. In 2007 the first

stage of construction in Area D was completed and waste disposal operations moved from Area A to Area D (the current filling area) at that time.

### **Waste Trends and Life Expectancy**

13. Area D will continue to accept waste until 2025 when it is anticipated to reach full capacity. For landfilling to continue at Ōmarunui beyond 2025, the valley identified as Area B now needs to be developed and ready to receive waste by that time.
14. Should Area B be granted approval to accept waste it would provide the region with 28 to 30 years' life depending on waste volumes. This extension will ensure that there is future capacity to receive residual waste until greater minimisation is achieved and alternative waste disposal technologies become more advanced in providing a local solution.

### **Consultation and Submissions**

15. A consultation summary is attached to the main body of my evidence. Pre-lodgement consultation started in March 2019 with two hui and since that time has included more hui and a number of site meetings with neighbours and submitters.
16. My evidence also attaches a Cultural Values Assessment prepared for Ngāti Pārau Hapu Trust, following some really positive engagement with that group. The Report identifies a number of opportunities for ongoing partnership which are being pursued separately from this process.

### **Conclusion**

17. The Ōmarunui Landfill is an important strategic asset for the Hastings and Napier communities, and its expansion will allow us to continue to offer an essential service in an environmentally responsible manner.
18. The Applicants are conscious of the potential impact of the Landfill, particularly on the surrounding communities and we have worked hard to understand the concerns and ensure they are addressed. In my view, the proposed extension, with the comprehensive suite of conditions proposed by our experts, will mean all effects are appropriately addressed.

**Martin Jarvis**  
**28 October 2021**