

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**)

Summary of evidence by Phil Doolan (Landfill Operations)

Dated 28 October 2021

1. I am the Solid Waste Engineer responsible for managing Ōmarunui Landfill (**Landfill**). I prepared evidence dated 2 September 2021 and addresses the key components of the Landfill and comments on matters of operation.

Key Components of the Landfill Site

2. The Landfill site is 150 ha and is located within Hastings District off Ōmarunui Road approximately 5 km to the west of Taradale. The site is located to the west of the Tutaekuri River and is between Ōmarunui Road and Swamp Road.
3. The area currently used for landfilling is Area D at 10 ha and this is being covered with progressive final capping to final levels that have been reached. Area A was the first area used and is fully capped with a grass vegetation. An area of approximately 50 ha is currently being used for agro-forestry development. The remainder of the site is stock fenced and leased for stock grazing. Asbestos disposal is occurring in Area E.
4. My evidence sets out the facilities established in relation to Area A and D, such as access and perimeter roading, a kiosk and weighbridge at the entrance, wheel wash, litter fencing, leachate irrigation systems and various stormwater and sediment ponds. Many of these existing facilities will continue to be used if the expansion to Area B is approved.

Waste Processes at the Landfill

5. I am largely responsible for ensuring operations at the Landfill comply with the consent conditions, including the Ōmarunui Landfill Operations and Maintenance Manual (**O&M Manual**) which is a requirement of the regional consents. Compliance is largely ensured by the processes that are adopted for accepting and managing waste at the Landfill, the process for which is described in my primary evidence. My evidence also describes the day-to-day operations at the Landfill, and how compliance is achieved through operational measures.
6. A range of monitoring and testing is carried out consistently throughout the year and results reported to HBRC compliance team on receipt of these. There is also an annual compliance report compiled independently and submitted to HBRC compliance team every November which outlines the annual testing and results. From this report HBRC will note each consent condition as compliant or non-compliant. To date Ōmarunui Landfill has been fully compliant in these annual reports.

Odour Management at the Landfill

7. There have been recent odour complaints relating to the disposal of sheep pelts at the Landfill. My primary evidence describes how this issue arose and what measures have been implemented to try to avoid odour issues of this type arising in the future. Since the new procedures have been put in place, we have not had any further odour complaints, the last such complaint having been registered on 1 May 2021.
8. If an odour complaint is received we inform the HBRC pollution hotline, which triggers them to come and investigate it independently. They will usually email or call back. This is then recorded into the Council's Infrastructure Database where complaints can be registered. Other than the recent experience with the sheep pelts, odour complaints are relatively uncommon.

Reply to Danny Bearsley

9. I also prepared evidence dated 19 October 2021 in response to evidence filed by Mr Danny Bearsley. In summary, much of Mr Bearsley's concern around the Landfill appears to be based on misunderstanding of how the Landfill operates or the effect it is having on his low-lying land. We have consistently sought to be a good neighbour to Mr Bearsley, and fully intend to continue to do so.

Conclusion

10. As Area D comes to the end of its life, we are looking to expand into Area B. I believe the Landfill's operational systems are well established and can be adapted easily to move towards the next stage, subject to the new consents and the new version of the O&M Manual that will be developed under the proposed conditions of consent.

Philip Doolan
28 October 2021