

Corporate Services



17 May 2022

Ref: APP-126770 HBDHB

Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER

Pōrangahau Township and Te Paerahi Township Wastewater Treatment Plants

Application Number: APP-126770
Applicant: Central Hawke's Bay District Council

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Pōrangahau Township / Te Paerahi Township Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB) is committed to eliminating health inequities and improving community wellbeing, particularly for our Māori and Pacific population, children and young people and those living in underserved communities.

The HBDHB appreciates the public health need for appropriate disposal of human waste and seeks to mediate with all parties to find acceptable conditions for the consent.

This submission covers:
AUTH-127522-01 and AUTH-127520-01 for 9 years
AUTH-127519-01 and AUTH-127518-01 for 6 years
AUTH-127515-01 and AUTH-127516-01 for 35 years

Submission points:

HBDHB opposes some consents and supports in part others of the proposed consent conditions.

General Conditions – Table 1

HBDHB opposes Table 1 of the consent proposed conditions as there are question marks in the consent condition document that have not been defined (as example sections, 1,2,22 and 24 – therefore all sections in the draft consent conditions in table 1 are opposed until all sections are completed).

Condition 8 gives no requirement for training or qualifications of the nominated person maintaining the water treatment plant.

There is no mention in section 23 of a farm management nutrient or pathogen leaching plan.

Te Paerahi Wastewater treatment and land discharge – Table 2

HBDHB supports in part the Te Paerahi Wastewater Treatment and Land Discharge consent application. There appears to be no requirement for the monitoring of nitrogen in the effluent monitoring section 36. Although there is a requirement for piezometers to monitor in four locations (section 37), there is no auditing requirement or feedback loop to the treatment process if nitrogen is increasing in the groundwater.

Porangahau Wastewater Treatment and River Discharge – Table 3

HBDHB opposes the nine-year discharge consent to the Porangahau River.

HBDHB appreciates that in the short-term discharge to the river will still be required. However, as the Te Paerahi Waste water Treatment Plant is already discharging to land, the priority must be to remove the discharge to the river from the Porangahau Wastewater Treatment Plant. HBDHB requests investigation into workflow to the Porangahau part of the system being given equal priority to the Te Paerahi discharge.

Discharge Property Treatment and Land Discharge – Table 4

HBDHB opposes the 35-year term of this consent. The treatment plant and new discharge field are not in use, nor, even built. A shorter duration for this consent would be more appropriate so construction and optimisation of the treatment process can be clearly understood before a long-term consent should be considered.

HBDHB also opposes this consent due to missing concentrations for contaminants in section 48.

HBDHB also opposes the consent due to no indication of regular reviews, audits and improvement plans link to a review cycle for the consent – as discussed in the Takapau consent process.

In addition, there are various other sections in Table 4 that HBDHB would like clarified.

As mentioned, HBDHB seeks mediation with interested parties in the first instance, and wishes to be heard in support of this submission.

For further information please contact:

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Ngā mihi,



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