

To Hawke's Bay Regional Council  
17 May, 2022

**Re: Submission from Te Tore o Puanga RMA Unit, Te Mana o Ngāti Kere/ Ngāti Kere Hapū Authority on Central Hawke's Bay Discharge Consent Applications (AUTH-127522-01, AUTH-127520-01, AUTH-127519-01, AUTH-127518-01, AUTH-127515-01 and AUTH-127516-01)**

Rongomaraeroa Maraer Trustees and Te Tore o Puanga RMA unit has worked for Ngāti Kere Hapū Authority and Ngāti Kere and the 9 hapū groups associated with Ngāti Kere whānui. Te Tore o Puanga is a whānau based group which include members from the Tipene-Matua, Ropiha and Te Atua whānau and most importantly Kaumatua.

Te Tore o Puanga, Ngati Kere have been included extensively with the application and commend the work that Central Hawke's Bay District Council has put into consulting with Ngati Kere. The Public meetings held at the Porangahau including Rongomaraeroa Marae, and the bus trip to the Horowhenua and site visit on the proposed land. Te Tore o Puanga RMA unit support the Resource Consent application.

Te Tore o Puanga RMA unit is supportive of the removal of the oxidation ponds from wāhi tapu Pukepuketahinu and Te Awakari a Tamanui.

The discharge of effluent and waste water residuals of any form into our waterways is not permitted by Ngati Kere. The irrigation system onto land is a new innovation and supported as a way to mitigate further damage of our waterways.

Here are some further actions to monitor the Environment Effects the Cultural Impact of the proposed system:

- Adhere to Tikanga and kawa when work is undertaken on the site.
- Iwi monitors will be on site while an Archaeologist undertake Works on site, Rangatahi will be trained to be cultural monitors on site.
- Decommissioning and remediation of the Pukepuketahinu site and Te Awakari (Jones Road site will need to under an Archaeological Authority.
- Te Paerahi, Parimahu Plains are part of a cultural landscape, there is potential of wāhi tapu material to be encountered so Tikanga will be applied over the site and monitored.
- The need for a cultural health monitoring program encouraging our Rangatahi to monitor cultural and enviromental indicators and develop a database of mātauranga.
- Local Rangatahi included with ongoing operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment system and monitoring residual discharge.

- Mahinga kai – Ngāti Kere is very concerned about the Kaitiakitanga, Manaakitanga and Mauri of the waterways and its biodiversity. The Cockle beds along the estuary belt is very significant to tangata whenua .

Note : Monitor Cockles and Patiki . e.g. Napier Estuary monitoring programme.

Issue:

- Residual water that drains into the Taurekaitai, and Porangahau river waterways is considered a major source of contaminants into the Estuary. The most persistent and toxic classes of contaminants present in storm water draining this catchment include heavy metals; and hydrocarbons; as well as human pathogenic bacteria.
- Cockles are a good indicator species for monitoring contaminants in coastal environments because as bivalve feeders, they filter water and have a tendency to bio accumulate heavy metals. Therefore, they are a good representative for the types and amounts of contaminants flowing from Ponds and farms into the waterways. Cockles are also prone to retaining microbiological contaminants and pathogens present in the marine environment. Pollution sourced from partially treated sewage, or untreated sewage; animal wastes; and within land runoff, can contaminate the marine environment leading to these contaminants being up-taken by the filter feeding cockles. A wide variety of enteric viruses and bacteria are present in these types of pollution, and there is a risk to the health of the public when these shellfish are consumed.
- Other Mahinga Kai such as Kahawai, Moki, Patiki (Fish) have the potential to be exposed to these same contaminants as they come into contact with them when swimming in close proximity of residual waters.
- Exposure can also occur through the food chain from eating of marine macro invertebrates such as crustaceans, shellfish, and other fish, where there is the potential for these contaminants to bio accumulate in fishes tissue and organs.

Ngāti Kere would like a monitoring programme to ensure these mahinga kai are into better condition.

As noted, Ngāti Kere is essentially very supportive of the WWTP developments and of the Central Hawke’s Bay Discharge Consent Applications subject to addressing our remaining concerns. We wish to be part of pre-hearing meetings and wish to be heard if there is a hearing

Kind regards

Anthony Tipene-Matua  
Rongomaraeroa Chair and Te Tore o Puanga representative.