

10 August 2021

Kia ora Darren,

Thank you for responding to concerns that hapū/mana whenua have in regards to the Takapau Waste Water. My comments are listed below in red.

*2) An evaluation at 5 years to ensure that discharge has been totally removed from the wetland and Mākāreū Awa.*

**I support the condition for a “5 year System Review Report” as copied below from your letter:**

**“Within five years of the commencement date of this consent, and there after every 5 years, the Consent Holder must prepare a ‘System Review Report’ including but not limited to summaries of:**

- 1. a) the volume applied to land and discharged to the HRLP;**
- 2. b) when the HRLP was used and the river flow conditions at the time;**
- 3. c) changes that have been made to the wastewater treatment plant and details of changes proposed;**
- 4. d) all monitoring undertaken as required by this consent, including Mauri monitoring, and may include additional monitoring undertaken by the Consent Holder; and**
- 5. e) storage utilisation and opportunities to better utilise it to avoid the use of the HRLP.**

**Further, management of the system can be updated, with proposed changes to be made as necessary to the Operation and Management Plan after an annual review by the Consent Holder.”**

*3) A review after a 10 year period to evaluate any adverse effects of the BPO.*

**I support the condition below as it provides a more robust system for identifying and addressing potential issues earlier.**

**“As with the recommendation above, there is an annual review of the system proposed (condition 47) and the wider system could be reviewed every 5 years as suggested above. This will result in the any adverse effects being identified and addressed more frequently than the suggested 10 years.”**

*4) Engagement between Council and Mana whenua, with Mana whenua as participants involved in processes and decision making, is pivotal to moving smoothly through consenting issues and endorses continuation of building an effective partnership into the future.*

Council considers the input of mana whenua as important to decision making in the district and has engaged early with mana whenua including requesting the CIA be prepared. Council also has an ongoing strategy for engagement with tangata whenua across the District, with guidance forming a key part with all consent engagement including with the Takapau discharge consent.

To assist with ongoing engagement, Council have suggested resource consent conditions to provide an opportunity for mana whenua to be involved with cultural monitoring. Conditions 43, 44 and 45 of the attached draft conditions have been suggested. Council would be happy to consider alternative wording.

**Supported with Conditions 43, 44, 45.**

*5) Riparian planting and restoration of other areas is encouraged for maintaining and enhancing water quality and quality of aquatic habitats.*

Recommendation is noted.

**Thank you does this mean it will be actioned?**

*6) A recommendation for the wetland area to be cleared of vegetation as it has become congested again.*

The wetland area is intended to be decommissioned and replaced with an alternative structure. Wetlands require ongoing water, and with the cessation of discharge during dryer low flow conditions there will be no water to sustain plant growth.

Council is planning to clear the wetland of vegetation again, and commits to completing this by December 2021.

Council would like to work with tangata whenua to revise the current discharge area for the longer term, which we are calling the High Rate Land Passage (HRLP).

**I fully support this condition.**

*7) A recommendation for more planting to occur in the wetland of indigenous/native plants particularly Harakeke and other appropriate wetland plants which assist in filtering contaminants.*

As noted above, Council are to decommission the wetland area and replace it with a HRLP. Council would like assistance in designing and potentially maintaining this structure.

**I support this but if there are additional opportunities where suitable areas are available in the vicinity for planting appropriate plants that assist in filtering contaminants we would not want that to be precluded.**

*8) Any discharge activity must include a robust monitoring programme that includes regular monitoring of the discharge and the potential effects on the receiving environment.*

As noted above, the suggested resource consent conditions provide for cultural monitoring. They also provide for other monitoring, including the irrigation area and the awa. Council would be happy to discuss modifications to these conditions where you see appropriate.

**Supported with future discussion to occur.**

9) Establishment of a minimum 50m buffer zone between any discharge of contaminants to land activity and the awa, to ensure that surface water quality and groundwater quality are protected.

The design to date uses a pivot irrigator to apply the wastewater to land. The consent conditions propose a 20 m set back (Condition 9), however, due to the shape of the land, the majority of the area will have a set back of 50 m and in some cases more. Can you please confirm the layout and buffer distances as proposed are suitable.

Confirmed that layout and buffer distances are suitable. Supported.

### Other comments

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Can you add that Tangata whenua be notified as well and any follow up reports must be sent to the hapū. I would suggest it goes to the Chairperson of Te Rongo o Tahu marae and Rākautātahi marae. If Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust engage an RMA/environmental person for Tamatea they will need notification too. (They are looking at employing someone at the moment.)

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### Accidental Discovery

1. Do not remove find/disturb feature.
2. Secure site - works to stop within a 20m radius of find.
3. Inform - Chairman of: - Te Rongo o Tahu marae, Rākautātahi marae, Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea.
4. Potential pre-1900 material. Pre - 1900 archaeological site? Notification and archaeological response and archaeological investigation according to standard archaeological practice.
5. If pre-1900 Māori material then tikanga Māori processes are implemented as well as issued Archaeological Authority conditions.
6. If found to be taonga tūturu, koiwi, then find must be protected and cordoned off until a decision is made regarding appropriate management. Contractor must be informed and work ceases until all statutory and cultural requirements are met. Area of discovery further cordoned off ( with fence etc), and protected with a geocloth cover.

7. Once decision is made on appropriate cultural management by tangata whenua, the correct processes according to tikanga Māori are carried out by the appropriate people - tangata whenua, archaeologist.

8. At completion a notice of clearance is issued so work can recommence, and appropriate people notified.

Ngā mihi

Jo Heperi