

MEMORANDUM

To: Tania Diack
From: Cindy Asmat, Craig Goodier
Date: 20 Dec 2018
Ref: APP123774
Subject: Wairoa Wastewater Treatment Plant

The application involves a resource consent for Wairoa District Council to discharge treated sewage effluent from the Wairoa sewage treatment plant into the Wairoa River estuary. The current consent expires on 31 May 2019. The renewal of the discharge permit appears to be consistent with the relevant policies and rules of the Hawke's Bay Regional Coastal Environment Plan, and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

As part of the current consent, provision has been made to allow the outfall pipeline to be realigned and relocated within a defined area of the riverbed, in order for the discharge to be close to the main flow of the river, as shown in the following figure included in the consent application.

The main WWWT outfall pipeline is proposed to be able to be relocated so that it is kept close to the inshore edge of the main active river channel for optimum dispersion and flushing of the treated wastewater discharges out to sea. The yellow outline in Figure 5.1 shows the specific area of riverbed within which the outfall will terminate and within which the connecting pipeline will be relocated and realigned as necessary to suit changes to the outfall relocation.



(AEE Figure 5.1, page 35)

Please comment on the change to discharging flows and timing into the Wairoa River, the management of the river mouth closure and the outfall/overflow structures (proposed relocation and changes to structures when needed). And any other issues that you can see associated with this proposal.

The application describes the changes in timing of discharges to the Wairoa River, and comments on the occurrences of river mouth closure, which result in cessation of discharge of effluent to the river. The Assessment of Environmental Effects provides details of the wastewater system and the main WWTP outfall pipeline and the accompanying analysis provided in the application concludes that the effects of the proposed changes to the discharge, as well as the proposed changes to the structure and outfall pipe are less than minor. We agree with this conclusion.

Based on the information provided in the application we consider that the potential effects of the activity in terms of flooding, stream dynamics, scour, and erosion are considered to be less than minor.