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Report to Environment Committee
from Rob Forlong, Manager, Consents Management

Compliance Monitoring – Resource Consents

1. Purpose

To present to the Committee a summary report of the Consents Management Department's compliance monitoring for the 1999/2000 financial year.

2. Background

Each year the Consents Management Department monitors hundreds of resource consents to ensure that the consent holders are complying with their consent conditions. The results of this monitoring are then reported to you on an annual basis.

As with last year we have combined all those reports into one document which is enclosed as a separate document.

3. Classifying Compliance

In order to provide a quick summary of the levels of compliance we have classified operations on a four-tier scale shown below:

Fully complying 100 % compliance with all consent conditions at all times.

Mainly complying Compliance with all conditions relating to environmental effects during the year. However, there may be minor non-compliance with administrative-type conditions, e.g., late (but by no more than one month) submission of management reports. All administrative conditions are met at the end of the financial year.

Partially complying Compliance with all conditions relating to environmental effects during the year. However, there may be non-compliance

with administrative-type conditions, e.g., late submission of management reports. The consent holder needs to be prompted by Wellington Regional Council before such administrative conditions are met at the end of the financial year.

Non-Complying Non-compliance with condition(s) relating to environmental effects during the financial year (this includes any confirmed complaints) and/or not all administrative-type conditions met at the end of the financial year.

4. **Compliance Summary**

In total we inspected and/or obtained self monitoring data on 715 consented operations. Because many ongoing operations such as landfills have a number of resource consents, the 715 operations equates to approximately 900 to 1000 consents monitored.

In 1999/2000, 65% of operations were *fully complying* and 23% *non complying*. The remainder were either *partially* or *mainly complying*.

Interestingly, the groups with the poorest compliance record are local authorities and individuals who hold coastal permits (boatsheds and moorings). Two groups that are often blamed for pollution, farming operations and industry, have a reasonably good compliance record. However, there are examples of both excellent and poor compliance in almost every group of consent holders.

The figures represent an improvement on last year and that improvement would have been greater were it not for the widespread non compliance of coastal permit holders.

5. **Enforcement Action**

During the 1999/2000 financial year we issued 28 abatement notices (8 in 1998/99), applied for and obtained one interim enforcement order (one in 1998/99) and prosecuted one operation (two individuals and two companies).

The defendants have pleaded not guilty and prosecutions have yet to be heard by the Courts.

6. **Communications**

Last year we got some good press coverage when we presented certificates to those individuals and companies who had done particularly well. We intend to do the same this year.

7. Recommendation

That the report be received and its contents noted.

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission:

ROB FORLONG
Manager, Resource Consents

JANE BRADBURY
Divisional Manager, Environment