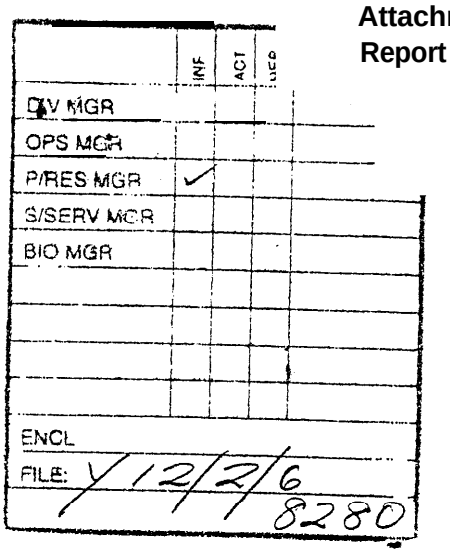

WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 MAY 2002

RECEIVED

Consents and Compliance
WRC
Box 41
MASTERTON
23 May 2002

Dear Paula

Our Trust wishes to object to one of the conditions (condition 2) on the resource consent granted for the discharge of sewage.

The first part of the condition we will find difficult to comply with is the timeframe by which to have modifications made to the existing system. The consent states we are to have the modifications made by 1 July 2002. We do not consider this is achievable, given the nature of our organisation. We are a charitable trust relying to a large extent on volunteers to develop the buildings and amenities. It is envisaged that volunteer labour will install the new sump and warning light. Working bees at the camp happen infrequently.

We do not consider that the modifications are of an urgent nature. Please keep in mind that there has been no overflow of sewage into the stream since the Trust has taken ownership of the site. There are very few camps booked for the winter months, and those that are booked consist of small parties,

We would like the condition changed so that the modifications are completed by the start of the camping season in October. This will give the volunteers an opportunity to hold a working bee during school holidays when they are there with their families.

The second part of condition 2 we wish to object to is the capacity of the sump required. A 20 000 litre tank is enormous and expensive, and is seen by the Trust as overkill. The hole required to accommodate such a sump may not be able to be fitted into the space available between the pump sump and the stream. The depth of the hole required would probably be below the stream level, and the hole would fill with water before the tank is installed.

The Trust do not consider that a theoretical 2 days storage is necessary. As stated in the application, a spare pump is available at the camp for emergencies. The addition of a warning light was proposed by the Trust so that immediate action could be taken in the case of a malfunction. We consider that a matter of hours, rather than days, would be required for storage in the event of a breakdown. The Trust envisaged a much smaller capacity sump, in the order of around 3000 litres.

We believe that if there was a breakdown during a maximum capacity camp, a combination of the spare pump, shutting off of the water and use of a vacuum tanker to remove excess sewage from the emergency tank would be sufficient to deal with the crisis. For practical and health reasons, we do not want to be in a situation of storing 20 000 litres of raw sewage on site with an occupied camp full of children.

We ask that you decrease the capacity of the tank required under the consent.

Yours faithfully

Graham Howard
Director