

Report 09.52
Date 10 March 2009
File ENV/01/08/04

Committee Regulatory Committee
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Environmental Regulation

Decisions on non-notified resource consent applications

1. Purpose

To report on decisions made under delegated authority on non-notified resource consent applications.

2. Communication

For full details of the non notified consents granted please go to the following link: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/story3982.cfm?>

3. Non-notified resource consents

A total of 190 resource consents were approved between 27 October 2008 and 27 February 2009. These are summarised in the table below. Three certificates of compliance were also processed during this period.

	Coastal permit	Discharge permit	Land use consent	Water permit
CDC		4	7	1
HCC		3	13	2
KCDC	1	8	13	2
MDC		1	14	7
PCC	5	4	9	2
SWDC	1		21	43
UHCC		3	7	1
WCC	6	3	7	1
Whole region		1		
Total	13	27	91	59

3.1 Consent trends

A significant number of consents have been granted for this period, largely as a result of land use consents and water permits granted in the SWDC.

Landuse consents and stream work consent numbers continue to remain relatively steady.

3.2 Significant non-notified resource consents

Earthworks

Fifteen earthworks consents have been granted for this period, including six consents for Forestry operations, three for earthworks associated with subdivisions, one for cleanfill operations, and two consents for earthworks associated with the double tracking of the North Island Main Trunk Railway Line.

The bulk earthworks consents associated with subdivisions include two consents for Flotilla Place, Duck Creek in Whitby.

Wairarapa Water Permits

A number of water permits to take water were processed and granted at the end of November for the following surface water catchments and groundwater zones:

- Battersea groundwater zone
- Martinborough Eastern Terraces groundwater zone
- Martinborough Western Terraces groundwater zone
- South Featherston surface water catchments
- Waipoua River catchment

The majority of permits within these catchments and groundwater zones expired in 2008, and with the agreement of each applicant, they were processed as a group over a period of approximately six months which provided for more cost effective and efficient consent processing. It also provided a good opportunity to assess the cumulative effects of all takes on each respective catchment or aquifer and ensure that each application was treated in a consistent manner.

Palliser Bay seismic surveys

NIWA proposes to carry out geophysical marine surveys of the Palliser Bay area to explore for condensate, gas, oil, LPG and petroleum within the permit area of 140km². The surveys are carried out with hydrographic sounders outputting sound from air guns (at the source) at a level of around 199dB. Conditions of consent focus on measures to mitigated potential effects on marine mammals from the subsurface noise.

Wellington airport runway resurfacing

Fulton Hogan Limited was granted a discharge to air permit to operate a small mobile asphalt plant at Wellington Airport. The plant has been moved to the site from Ohakea Air Force Base to provide for the resurfacing of a number of taxiways and part of the main runway in the summer of 2009. Conditions ensure appropriate emissions control equipment is in place to mitigate any effects arising from operation of the plant, which would largely be related to dust and possibly odour.

Schering-Plough Animal Health

This resource consent relates to the discharge of treated human and animal research farm effluent to land, and subsequently, to the headwaters of the Mangaroa River at Johnsons Road, Whitemans Valley. It also authorises the 'overflow' of treated effluent from a field drain system to an unnamed tributary of the Mangaroa River during prolonged wet weather. Consent was granted for a relatively short 10 year duration. The applicant has committed to upgrading the disposal system over the duration of the consent to eliminate overflows to surface water.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. **Receives the report; and***
- 2. **Notes the contents.***

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