

MEMO

TO All Councillors
FROM Sonia Baker, Team Leader, Environmental Regulation
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Decisions on non-notified resource consents applications

1. Purpose

To report on decisions made under delegated authority on non-notified resource consent applications. This report covers the period 4 August 2014 to 12 September 2014.

2. Applications processed

A total of 62 resource consents were received during the period, with 33 being approved in the period. This compares with 88 consents that were approved for the same period last year. One application was returned as incomplete under section 88.

The consents approved are summarised in the table below:

	Coastal permit	Discharge permit	Land use consent	Water permit
CDC			2	2
HCC		1	3	
KCDC		1		1
MDC		2	2	
PCC	1		1	
SWDC	2	1	2	7
UHCC		1	1	
WCC	3			
TDC				
Whole region				
Total	6	6	11	10

3. Consent trends

Overall there was a relatively even spread of consents this month, including the continual renewal of water permits in the Wairarapa.

4. Non-notified consents of interest

Masterton District Council (WAR140367) – Discharge permit for the ongoing discharge of contaminants to land from a contaminated site at Bentley Street gasworks.

Masterton District Council (the applicant) applied to Greater Wellington Regional Council for the ongoing discharge of contaminants to land from a contaminated site (Bentley Street gasworks). The site has been disused since ceasing operations in the early 1970s. Since this time several environmental investigations have taken place, which indicate that contaminants associated with the former gasworks are migrating off-site.

A short-term (5 year) resource consent was granted in 2009 to enable additional environmental monitoring to occur to confirm the extent of off-site migration of contaminants. MDC has now applied for a longer term (25 year) replacement consent based on the results of the sampling and analysis and a proposed Site Management Plan.

Overall we were satisfied that the environmental effects on ground and surface water, air and human health from the discharge of contaminants into or onto land from the contaminated gasworks site can be appropriately managed through the recommended consent conditions, including sampling conditions to ensure off-site contamination of both surface and ground water continues to meet the requirements of section 107 of the Act, and relevant environmental guidelines (ANZDECC); requirement to keep as much sediment as practically possible contained within the site boundaries when undertaking any cleaning/maintenance of the stream bed (including by mechanical means); impacts on human health from direct contact with contaminated soils within the site to be minimised by maintaining soil cover, fencing of the site and signage to warn against entry due to contamination and associated health risks; undertaking a Risk Management Communication Strategy assessment with the resulting strategy to be approved by the Regional Council; and ensuring the integrity of the groundcover is maintained to minimise the risk of direct exposure for people as well as any potential windblown dust exposure.

Wairarapa Jetsprint Club (WAR140356) – Water permit to take surface water from the Tauherenikau River to fill a jet sprint track in the Tauherenikau Racecourse for recreational purposes.

Wairarapa Jetsprint Club applied to the Greater Wellington Regional Council to renew their water take consent (30 litres per second (l/s) for 24 hours a day up to four times throughout the year, with a maximum abstraction of 3000m³ of water each time). The application is to continue taking and using water from the Tauherenikau River for filling a jet sprint track at the Tauherenikau Racecourse for recreational purposes. There would be a maximum abstraction of 12,000m³ per year.

At the maximum pumping rate of 30 l/s, it would take approximately 28 hours to supply the requisite amount of water. There would be no discharge of the water from the jet sprint track back to the river. Furthermore, a portable pump will be used to abstract the water (usually on a tractor), so a permanent intake will not be established. The proposal fits within the core allocation from the Tauherenikau River and conditions of consent were imposed restricting the applicant from taking water during low flows.