

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington, on Thursday, 6 April 2000 at 9.30am

Present

Councillors Buchanan (Chairperson), Allen, Gibson, Macaskill, Turver and Messrs Earl and Morrison

Also Present

Councillors Laidlaw, Long, Shaw, Thomas and Werry

Officers Present

Messrs Darroch, Forlong, Pryce, Skene, Sherriff, Stone, Van Schalkwyk, Waddy and Dr Hastie

Public Business

Procedural Items

E 192 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Turver)

That the apologies from Councillors McDavitt and Shields be confirmed.

E193 Public Participation

There were no members of the public who wished to participate in the meeting.

E194 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved

(Cr Gibson/Cr Allen)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2000, Report 00.114, and the special meeting held on 24 February 2000, Report 00.219, be confirmed.

Harbour Matters

Matters for Information

E195 Collision between *Atlantic Elizabeth* and Steeple Rock Beacon

Report 00.229

File: J/3/1/2

It was noted by the meeting that the skipper of the *Atlantic Elizabeth* was fined \$1500 after a prosecution by the Maritime Safety Authority. The cost of repairs to the light were about \$55,000 covered by the vessel's owners insurance.

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Allen)

That the Report be received and the contents noted.

Civil Defence Matters

Matter for Decision

E196 Organisations with a Civil Defence Role/Responsibility

Report 00.203

File: Z/1/2/1

Training

It was noted by the meeting that in response to a question from Councillor Allen, Mr Van Schalkwyk will report to the next meeting on what training is in place for the various non-professional groups and organisations involved in Emergency Management. Councillor Allen also asked about the effectiveness of the training and how it was audited.

Resolved

(Cr Gibson/Mr Earl)

That the document “Organisations with a Civil Defence Role/Responsibility” be endorsed, and its release to all responders identified in the document be approved.

Environmental Matters

Matters for Recommendation

E197 **Resource Management Infringement Notices**

Report 00.43

File: ENV 10/2/1

Councillor Macaskill arrived at 10.50am.

While members were considering the policy for infringement notices Perry Davy, Stephanie Livick, Mary Manastyrski, Lyndell McGregor and Tamsin Mitchell from the Resource Consents Division served infringement notices on each member of the Committee. Councillor Buchanan commented that members were fortunate that the notices would not be acted on at this stage.

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr Turver/Cr Buchanan)

That the delegation manual be amended, as outlined in the attachment to this report, to allow the implementation of infringement notices in accordance with the procedures and guidelines prepared for the Wellington Region.

E198 **Delegations for Incident Inspection Charges**

Report 00.212

File: K/4/3/4

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Macaskill)

That the Committee recommend to the Council that the Wellington Regional Council Delegation Manual be amended, as outlined in the Attachment to this Report, to allow for the implementation of Incident Inspection Charges.

Matters for Decision

E199 Clyde Quay Boat Harbour – Request for Heritage Protection

Report 00.214

File: X/25/1/1

Resolved

(Cr Allen/Mr Morrison)

That consideration of recommendation (1) in Report 00.54 and which reads as follows:

“That the request from the Mount Victoria Residents Association to include the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour breakwater and fore ‘n aft moorings in Appendix 4 of the Regional Coast Plan be declined”.

Be further deferred until the next meeting of the Environment Committee, pending receipt and consideration of expert advice.

E200 Draft Vision Statement and Action Plan for the Pauatahanui Inlet - Consultation

Report 00.209

File: X/23/5/7

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Gibson)

- (1) That Councillor Shields serve on the community committee, hearing submissions on the draft Pauatahanui Inlet Vision Statement and Action Plan.*
- (2) That Councillor Turver be the substitute if Councillor Shields is unable to attend.*

That staff document the processes being used in developing a vision and action plan for Pauatahanui Inlet for use in other similar projects.

E201 **A Discharge Permit Application to Discharge Supernatant from the Wainuiomata Water Treatment Plant, Water Group, Wellington Regional Council**

Report 00.198

File: WGN 000071

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Allen)

That the Committee, under delegated authority by the Wellington Regional Council, grant in accordance with sections 105 and 108 of the Resource Management Act 1991, discharge permit WGN 000071 to Water Group, Wellington Regional Council, to intermittently discharge supernatant from the wash wastewater recovery plant, Wainuiomata Water Treatment Plant complex, into the Wainuiomata River, subject to the following conditions.

- (1) *Supernatant may only be discharged into the Wainuiomata River:*
 - (a) *When the turbidity of raw water entering the treatment plant exceeds 4 NTU and for a period of 48 hours immediately after the turbidity of the raw water entering the treatment plant falls below 4 NTU; and/or*
 - (b) *During the first five minutes of each supernatant tank pump cycle, or until supernatant turbidity drops below 6 NTU; and/or*
 - (c) *At other times during pumping out of the supernatant tank when the turbidity of the supernatant exceeds 6 NTU.*

- (2) *The rate of discharge of supernatant to the Wainuiomata River shall not:*
 - (a) *exceed 50 L/s at any time; and*
 - (b) *exceed 25 percent of the upstream river flow as measured at the Wainuiomata River Intake at or about map reference NZMS:R27;783.924.*

- (3) *The permit holder shall monitor analytes in the supernatant as follows:*
 - (a) *At no less than weekly intervals for supernatant discharged to the Wainuiomata River -*
 - *pH;*
 - *aluminium residual (acid soluble) (g/m³);*
 - *chlorine residual (g/m³); and*
 - *carbon dioxide (g/m³).*

- (b) *On a continuous basis for supernatant produced by the washwater recovery plant -*
- *turbidity (NTU).*

Note: The frequency of monitoring may be reviewed by the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council upon receipt of the annual report required by condition 6 of this permit.

- (4) *The permit holder shall monitor the discharge of supernatant to the Wainuiomata River on a continuous basis for the following parameters:*
- *rate of discharge (L/s); and*
 - *volume of discharge (m³/day);*
- (5) *The permit holder shall provide an annual report, that summarises the results of the monitoring for the preceding financial year to 30 June, as required by conditions 3 and 4 of this permit. The report shall be provided to the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council by 31 July each year.*
- (6) *The permit holder shall provide an annual report that analyses the results of 12 months of supernatant monitoring for the preceding financial year to 30 June, as required by condition 3 of this permit.*

The analysis shall determine whether there is any statistically significant (with 95 percent confidence):

- (a) *increase in the central tendency or increase in the 95 percentile of the concentration of analytes in the supernatant;*
- (b) *change in the central tendency or change in the 95 percentile of the pH of the supernatant;*

from that found in the supernatant over the period January 1999 to June 1999 which is summarised in Table 2 of the document entitled Wainuiomata water treatment plant: supernatant discharge consent application and assessment of environmental effects dated November 1999.

The report shall be provided to the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council by 31 July each year.

- (7) *The permit holder shall undertake an annual study during the months of January to March to the satisfaction of the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council, to assess the effects of the discharge, after reasonable mixing, on downstream macroinvertebrate communities and periphyton. The results and interpretation of any studies undertaken shall be provided to the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council, by 30 June each year.*

Reasonable mixing shall be deemed to have occurred immediately downstream of the lower Wainuiomata Dam at or about map reference NZMS 260:R27;768.913.

- (8) *The permit holder shall, within one calendar month, undertake whole effluent toxicity testing (WETT) of representative samples of supernatant using upstream river water as diluent when:*
- (a) *Results of analysis required by condition 6 indicate there has been a statistically significant increase in the concentration of analytes and/or change in pH in the supernatant; or*
 - (b) *Results of the study required by condition 7 indicate that the discharge, after reasonable mixing, is having significant adverse effects on macroinvertebrate communities and periphyton; or*
 - (c) *Requested by the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council to do so.*

*The test organisms used in acute toxicity tests shall include, but not be limited to, Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and the freshwater amphipod (*Paracalliope fluviatilis*). The test organism(s) used in chronic toxicity tests shall include, but not be limited to, the freshwater green alga (*Selenastrum capricornutum*). The whole effluent toxicity testing (WETT) shall be carried out by a recognised practitioner to the satisfaction of the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council. The permit holder shall provide the results of any toxicity testing required by condition 8 of this permit to the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council within two calendar months of the completion of the toxicity testing.*

- (9) *The permit holder shall keep and maintain all such records as are necessary to demonstrate compliance with conditions 1 and 2 of this permit. Such records shall be made available to the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council upon request*

- (10) *All monitoring methods and procedures shall be to the satisfaction of the Manager, Consents Management, Wellington Regional Council*
- (11) *The Wellington Regional Council may review any or all conditions of this permit by giving notice of its intention to do so pursuant to section 128 of the Resource Management Act 1991, within three months of receipt of monitoring results required by conditions 5, 6, 7 or 8 of this permit or within six months of the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th and 13th anniversary of the commencement of this permit, for any of the following purposes:*
- (a) *To deal with any adverse effects on the environment which may arise from the exercise of this permit;*
- (b) *To review the adequacy of any monitoring requirements so as to incorporate into the permit any modification to any monitoring which may be necessary to deal with any adverse effects on the environment which may arise from the exercise of this permit.*

In terms of (11)(a) the review may be triggered by, but not limited to, the following:

- *If the results of the whole effluent toxicity testing (WETT), carried out under condition 8 of this permit indicate, in respect of any freshwater fish species or amphipod species, that the no observable effect concentration (NOEC) for supernatant is less than 50 percent; and/or indicate, in respect of any freshwater algae species, that the EC₅₀ for supernatant is less than 20 percent; or*
- *If the results of the study carried out under condition 7 indicate that the discharge, after reasonable mixing, is having significant adverse effects on macroinvertebrate communities and periphyton.*

In the event of the above review provisions being invoked by the Wellington Regional Council, the permit holder shall pay all reasonable and actual costs associated with the review.

- (12) *In terms of section 123(d) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the period for which consent is granted is limited to fifteen years from the date of commencement of this permit.*

Matters for Information

E202 **Presentation about the Pleasure Boat Safety Advisory Group by Rosemary Parkin, Maritime Safety Authority**

Rosemary Parkin gave a presentation and then members had a break for morning tea.

Environmental Matters

Matters for Information

E203 **Divisional Manager's Report**

Report 00.230

File: E/6/18/3

Councillor Turver left the meeting at 11.00am on other Council business. Councillor Werry arrived at 11.20am.

Biodiversity

Mr Skene said the Government had just released a new Biodiversity policy called *Bio What*. A report will be prepared for the next meeting comparing the Regional Council's policy with the Government paper. Following that meeting a submission will be prepared including the views of other Divisions.

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Macaskill)

(1) That Councillor Allen attend the Environment 2000 Conference in Christchurch from 17-20 May 2000.

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Allen)

(2) That the reports from the Divisional Manager, the Departmental Managers and the Divisional Accountant be received.

E204 **On-site Sewage: Discussions with Territorial Authorities for Transferring Powers**

Report 00.181

File: X/11/5/9

Resolved

(Cr Gibson/ Mr Morrison)

That the report be received and the comments noted.

E205 **Regional Council Input to District Planning**

Report 00.182

File: X/26/1/1

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Gibson)

That the report be received and the information noted.

E206 **Decisions of Non-notified Resource Consent Applications**

Report 00.197

File: Various

Councillors Laidlaw and Long arrived at 11.30am.

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Gibson)

That the report be received and the information noted.

E207 **Incident Response Report**

Report 00.195

File: K/4/6/1

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/ Mr Morrison)

That the report be received and the information noted.

Other Matters

E208 **Questions**

Pauatahanui Inlet

Councillor Shaw said 5 non-notified consents were granted recently to Transit New Zealand and he hoped the Regional Council was aware of the impact of these consents on the inlet. Mr Forlong said the consents had been widely circulated and would result in better protection. Mr Morrison said never the less the Regional Council should keep alert to the possible cumulative effects of these approvals.

Councillor Shaw concluded that the Regional Council should take every opportunity to influence the Territorial Authorities through the submission process on Annual Plans.

Notice of Motion

Resolved

(Cr Gibson/Cr Buchanan)

“That the Board of Centreport Ltd be commended for initiating a method of formally accounting for the environment and invites the Board to develop their proposals in conjunction with the environmental staff of the Regional Council”.

E209 **General**

Councillors Allen and Buchanan apologised for their non attendance at the next meeting of the Environment Committee on 18 May 2000.

The meeting closed at 11.50am.

CR I BUCHANAN
Chairperson

Date: