



Submission on resource consent application

Online reference number: CA190208753
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Submitter's details

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 Street address of property affected (if different to the address above): NA

The Council will serve all formal documents electronically via the email address provided above.

Application to which submission relates

Name of applicant: Remediation (NZ) Ltd
 Proposal (activity type and location): To discharge waste material to land for composting and treated stormwater and leachate from composting operations onto and into land in circumstances where contaminants may enter water in the Haehanga Stream

TRC Consent number/s: 5839-3.0

I am a trade competitor for the purposes of [section 308B](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991: No

The specific parts of the application this submission relates to are:

My submission relates to the whole application: Yes

Submission details

Please provide details of your submission. If your submission is in a document, you can upload the document below.

While I fully support and encourage the practice of vermiculture and composting as an efficient and environmentally friendly method of disposal, I cannot support the consent application for this particular site. My family have lived in the area for many generations and have seen the slow demise of the Uruti valley and consequently, the Mimi River. Because of the now-barren steep hill-country and valleys and the draining of most swamp areas from Mt Messenger to the sea, the valley can no longer cope with it's unique weather patterns of which it is so locally famous for. In the first instance, frequent torrential downpours and constant rain though the winter resulting in regular flooding and flash-floods which now run uninterrupted from the hills, valleys, and straight into the river picking up anything and everything on its way down until the river flats are submerged. And in the second instance, long hot dry summers which, without the bush cover and precious swamp systems constantly feeding the rivers, result in extremely low water levels and dry cracking hillsides which in turn create landslides all along the valley when the rain arrives in winter.

This kind of environment is too unstable for such a facility to

operate safely, no storm-water control in such a small valley could cope with the constant flooding in the winter, and amount of water needed for operation including the settling ponds is far too much for the low-levels flowing throughout the summer. Also, the soil at the site is mostly clay and unsuitable for land irrigation as run-off into the Haehanga would be inevitable. I do love the practice of pumping the water back to the head of the valley to be filtered back through the wetland system and, in fact, after a site visit, was quite impressed with most procedures. Unfortunately, the site chosen for the facility is unsuitable.

As tangata whenua, it has been heartbreaking to watch our tipuna awa Mimitangiatua deteriorate over recent generations now to such a point as she struggles to sustain us. The leachates and discharges into the Haehanga stream quickly make their way into the awa trampling on her already weak mauri and crushing her waivering wairua. This facility has been directly responsible for making us and our kaumatua feel unsafe bathing in and drinking from the Mimi river, which was once used for ceremony, bathing, gathering kai, drinking, spiritual cleansing, health ailments and much more. Many of our people have visited the Remediation (NZ) Ltd site for various reasons and have been pained and dismayed at what they saw. At a more stable, suitable site with correct management and appropriate consent regulations, the whenua would be strong enough and more capable to cope with and assist this facility. The disregard for Te Ao Maori, while still not uncommon, is rightly becoming more widely unacceptable, our connection with our whenua, maunga and awa is everything that we are, we descend from them, they are our ancestors. We cannot condone the desecration and disrespecting of our ancestors.

I am also disheartened to hear about the many previous consent breaches, most of which went unpunished, and the failure to comply with many of the previous consent regulations, even when given plenty of time to do so. In such a fragile environment, there is no room for error or incompetence. The results could be catastrophic to our land, river and sea.

NA

Upload submission details here

Outcome sought

I seek the following decision from the Council

If consent is granted, the conditions I seek are

To refuse consent

5 year renewal.

3 monthly testing

monthly site visits from TRC.

6 monthly cultural health monitoring by local iwi with minimum health requirements in consent as agreed on between Ngāti Mutunga, TRC and Remediation (NZ) Ltd.

Complete riparian planting across entire site.

NA

You can upload a document containing the conditions you seek here

Attendance and wish to be heard at consent hearing

I/we wish to be heard in support of my/our submission

No

By answering no, you will not be advised of the date of any consent hearing and cannot speak at any hearing. However, you will still retain your right to appeal any decision made by the Council.

If others make a similar submission, I/we will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing. Yes

Request for independent commissioner/s

Pursuant to section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991, I request that the Taranaki Regional Council delegates its functions, powers, and duties required to hear and decide the application to one or more hearing commissioners who are not Taranaki Regional Councillors. True

Note: Such a request may be made (in writing) up to 5 working days after close of submissions. If you do make a request under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991, you will be liable to meet or contribute to the costs of the hearings commissioner or commissioners.

Provision of submission to applicant

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires you to send a copy of the submission to the applicant.

Would you like the Applicant to be automatically sent a copy of this submission via email? Yes

Please enter the applicant's email address here david@revitalfert.co.nz

Authorisation

By selecting this checkbox, you are confirming you are the person making submission, or person authorised on behalf of person making submission. True

Date 2019-02-11

Council Use Only

| Action | Signature | Date |
|---|-----------|-------------------------|
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