

Pungarehu, 10.2.2019

Submission by Urs Signer

Tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou,

I am submitting in **opposition** to the renewal of resource consents to discharge waste material, treated stormwater & leachate, and to discharge emissions into the air from composting operations by Remediation (NZ) Ltd at 1460 Mokau Road, Uruti (Consent No 5838-3.0 and 5839-3.0).

In the TRC Technical Report on Remediation NZ (Technical Report 2016-83), the council notes that “[d]uring the monitoring period, RNZ Uruti demonstrated an overall **need for improvement** in their level of environmental performance.” (Report on TRC website) The report demonstrated that MCI testing showed downstream deterioration and surface water analysis indicated two exceedances with respect to the consent conditions, including an increase in un-ionised ammonia ... and the list goes on.

Remediation’s assertion that completing riparian planting will enable people to safely drink the water, swim in the river and catch and eat kai is simply **laughable**. (Assessment of Cultural Effects, Page 7)

I note that ‘Appendix J – consultation records’ was merely a one page letter sent to ‘the owner/occupier’. It is **unclear** who this was sent to and the AEE (at 6.1) is indeed very brief as to what consultation has occurred, who with and what the nature of that engagement was.

In previous years, locals have been outspoken indeed. From a Taranaki Daily News article:

*“Uruti’s Syd Baker was **disgusted** this had no bearing on the renewal. “For TRC to give the consent, they’ve got no consideration whatsoever for people who live with the bad smell. “We have been **complaining for the last eight years** now. What does it take to get them to listen to us?” Farmer John Oxenham said he was “**bitterly disappointed**” and the neighbours did not have the financial means to appeal to the Environment Court. [<http://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/3765509/Smelly-plant-gains-TRC-consent>]*

In another article:

*Mr Jury, a Tikorangi farmer who helps out his daughter and grandchildren living near the site in Uruti, said quite a few residents would be at the May hearing and would make their displeasure known. He said they were told at last week’s meeting that TRC was considering renewing Remediation’s consent for another five years, and that should not happen. Smells in the area were like “**rotten meat. Disgusting**”. “I was a butcher, so I should know. It’s probably worse when there’s no wind around.” [<http://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/3613925/Composting-stink-disgusting>]*

In a five week period alone in 2010, there were 24 complaints about the smell coming from the Remediation site at Uruti.

This company should not be granted further consents to destroy a river for years to come.

I would like to support this written submission with an oral submission at an upcoming hearing.

Ngā mihi  
Urs Signer