Osflo Fertiliser Ltd Monitoring Programme Annual Report 2023/24 Technical Report 2024-05

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# **Osflo Fertiliser Ltd**

Monitoring Programme Annual Report 2023/24 Technical Report 2024-05

Taranaki Regional Council Private Bag 713 Stratford

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## **Executive summary**

Osflo Fertiliser Limited (the Company) operates a poultry litter storage, blending and distribution facility located at 1319 Mountain Road, Inglewood, in the Waiongana catchment. The poultry litter is collected from farms around the Taranaki region, stored/blended on site, then sold as a registered fertiliser.

This report for the period July 2023 to June 2024 describes the monitoring programme implemented by Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) to assess the Company's environmental and consent compliance performance during the period under review. The report also details the results of the monitoring undertaken and assesses the environmental effects of the Company's activities.

## During the monitoring period, the Company demonstrated a high level of environmental performance and high level of administrative performance.

The Company holds three resource consents, which include a total of 17 conditions setting out the requirements that the Company must satisfy. The Company holds consents to: discharge washwater from truck wash facilities into land via soakage; to discharge stormwater to land via soakage where it may enter an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream; and to discharge emissions to air from the storage, blending and distribution of fertiliser.

The Council's monitoring programme for the year under review included four inspections, incorporating odour surveys and four surface water samples collected for physicochemical analysis.

The water samples from the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream indicated that the Company were in compliance with consent defined conditions on the four occasions they were collected. It is noted that the stormwater facility discharge to surface water, only occurs during significant rainfall events.

The Company continues to be proactive in their response to objectionable odour identification, with areas of the main storage shed closed to prevent odour release. Mesh doors that were installed during the 2020/21 period continue to prevent mass air movement from within the shed. The Company also maintains shelter belts/vegetative environmental buffers (VEBs), as a passive odour mitigation technique. These buffers continue to establish and mature. Additionally, a 'deodoriser' using rainwater at the back of the shed operates under certain environmental conditions to further mitigate potential odour.

The facility is allowed noticeable, but not objectionable or offensive odour at or beyond the boundary of the site. During this monitoring period there were no noticeable or objectionable odours reported at or beyond the site boundary during inspections. There were two odour complaints from members of the public during this monitoring period however, on both occasions the Company was deemed compliant.

No issues were reported during normal compliance inspections, and officers found the site to be well maintained and operating within consent conditions.

For reference, in the 2023/24 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 864 (89%) of a total of 967 consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 75 (8%) of the consents a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved. A further 26 (3%) of consents monitored required improvement in their performance, while the remaining two (<1%) achieved a rating of poor.

In terms of overall environmental and compliance performance by the consent holder over the last several years, the consent holder's performance remains at a high level.

This report includes recommendations for the 2024/25 year.

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## 1. Introduction

# 1.1 Compliance monitoring programme reports and the Resource Management Act 1991

#### 1.1.1 Introduction

This report is for the period July 2023 to June 2024 by the Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) on the monitoring programme associated with resource consents held by Osflo Fertiliser Ltd (the Company). The Company operates a chicken litter storage facility which is situated at 1319 Mountain Road, Inglewood, in the Waiongana catchment.

The report includes the results and findings of the monitoring programme implemented by the Council in respect of the consents held by the Company that relate to discharges of water within the Waiongana catchment, and the air discharge permit held by the Company to cover emissions to air from the site.

This report is the 30<sup>th</sup> annual report to be prepared by the Council to cover the Company's air, land and water discharges and their effects.

#### 1.1.2 Structure of this report

Section 1 of this report is a background section. It sets out general information about:

- consent compliance monitoring under the *Resource Management Act 1991* (RMA) and the Council's obligations;
- the Council's approach to monitoring sites though annual programmes;
- the resource consents held by the Company/companies in the Waiongana catchment;
- the nature of the monitoring programme in place for the period under review; and
- a description of the activities and operations conducted in the Company's site/catchment.

Section 2 presents the results of monitoring during the period under review, including scientific and technical data.

Section 3 discusses the results, their interpretations, and their significance for the environment.

Section 4 presents recommendations to be implemented in the 2024/25 monitoring year.

A glossary of common abbreviations and scientific terms, and a bibliography, are presented at the end of the report.

#### 1.1.3 The Resource Management Act 1991 and monitoring

The RMA primarily addresses environmental 'effects' which are defined as positive or adverse, temporary or permanent, past, present or future, or cumulative. Effects may arise in relation to:

- a. the neighbourhood or the wider community around an activity, and may include cultural and socialeconomic effects;
- b. physical effects on the locality, including landscape, amenity and visual effects;
- c. ecosystems, including effects on plants, animals, or habitats, whether aquatic or terrestrial;
- d. natural and physical resources having special significance (for example recreational, cultural, or aesthetic); and
- e. risks to the neighbourhood or environment.

In drafting and reviewing conditions on discharge permits, and in implementing monitoring programmes, the Council is recognising the comprehensive meaning of 'effects' in as much as is appropriate for each activity. Monitoring programmes are not only based on existing permit conditions, but also on the obligations of the RMA to assess the effects of the exercise of consents. In accordance with Section 35 of the RMA, the Council undertakes compliance monitoring for consents and rules in regional plans, and maintains an overview of the performance of resource users and consent holders. Compliance monitoring, including both activity and impact monitoring, enables the Council to continually re-evaluate its approach and that of consent holders to resource utilisation, to move closer to achieving sustainable development of the region's resources.

#### 1.1.4 Evaluation of environmental performance

Besides discussing the various details of the performance and extent of compliance by the consent holders, this report also assigns a rating as to each Company's environmental and administrative performance during the period under review. The rating categories are high, good, improvement required and poor for both environmental and administrative performance. The interpretations for these ratings are found in Appendix II.

For reference, in the 2023/24 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 864 (89%) of a total of 967 consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 75 (8%) of the consents a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved. A further 26 (3%) of consents monitored required improvement in their performance, while the remaining two (<1%) achieved a rating of poor.<sup>1</sup>

## 1.2 Process description

The Company operates a poultry litter storage, blending and distribution facility located at 1319 Mountain Road, Inglewood. The poultry litter is used as a general agricultural fertiliser. The site is a purpose built facility, operating on a three hectare site however, the overall site area is much larger at 46 hectares. It is situated in close proximity to an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream on the eastern side of Mountain Road. The site is surrounded by grazing farm land, with the nearest neighbour located some 400m to the west of the facility. The predominant wind direction is from the south east and the lesser from the south west.

The poultry litter is collected from farms around the Taranaki region, and sold as a registered fertiliser which is spread on farm land. The site is the administration centre for collection and distribution of the used litter, with the majority of the product being taken directly from the poultry farms and provided to the general farming customer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Council has used these compliance grading criteria for more than 20 years. They align closely with the 4 compliance grades in the MfE Best Practice Guidelines for Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement, 2018



Figure 1 Company site layout 1319 Mountain Road

Litter is stored at the depot when conditions are unsuitable for spreading on land, and to accumulate a reserve for periods of peak demand. Additives, such as lime, sulphur, chelated cobalt, and/or selenium may be blended into the litter according to customer requirements. The additives are stored in separate portions of the main storage facility.

Up to about 35,000 tonnes per annum of litter is generated on farms within the Inglewood/Ōkato/Waitara area, mostly near Lepperton and Bell Block. Peak seasonal demand is in spring, for cropping and in autumn, for dairy farming.

The litter is comprised of poultry manure and wood shavings. Upon storage the litter undergoes decomposition by microbial organisms, a natural process which generates gases and heat. The majority of the gas is carbon dioxide and methane, which are odourless. Some odorous gases are generated, both organic (aldehydes, ketones, organic acids, amines and organic sulphur compounds) and inorganic (ammonia, nitrogen oxides and hydrogen sulphide). The rate of heat generation depends on the amount of moisture and oxygen available.

#### Odour control

The litter is stored in two large, covered stockpiling areas (Photo 1), these form the main storage and blending facility (the main storage facility). The fresh litter is deposited on one side of the storage facility (eastern side) and older more mature litter is stockpiled on the other side (western side). There is already a shavings content in the litter when it is delivered, which is then composted with no extra additives, prior to being loaded for customers.

Odours at the facility were originally controlled with good air flow through the specially designed roof and sides of the facility, this actively dried the material. During the planning stage of this establishment, a separate odour assessment of the project was undertaken by the consultant's Golder Associates. This added confidence to the proposal prior to the granting of the consents. However, during the 2020/21 period, objectionable odour was recorded on one occasion so the main storage facility was modified. The modifications included closing in the rear and sides of the facility, and also fitting mesh doors on the entrance and exits of the facility, in order to prevent substantial air movement.

The Company has undertaken substantial planting in order to develop vegetative environmental buffers (VEBs) across the site. The successfulness of this passive form of odour mitigation is likely to be effective to a certain extent, and will continue to be assessed, as the vegetation takes time to mature and establish.

During the previous monitoring period a 'deodoriser', using collected rainwater, was installed at the rear of the main storage facility (Photo 2) to aide with odour control. With continual adjustments and fine tuning, this has proven to be effective with odour control. A second weather station has also been installed specifically to assist with the fine tuning.



Photo 1 Osflo main storage facility



Photo 2 Rear of the Osflo main storage facility (2024)

#### Wastewater/stormwater

Wastewater from the facility is strictly limited to the truck wash down area (Photo 3). This is a purpose built wash down bay, which is partially enclosed to prevent spray drift. The wastewater from the bay is treated in a series of soakage ponds which discharge to land.



Clean stormwater from the roof of the storage facility and the associated workshop and office area is collected in onsite storage tanks and reused on site when required. Once the tanks have been filled, the system discharges the remaining stormwater to land, via a cut stormwater channel. In extreme weather events, stormwater may discharge at location STW002100 (Figure 1) into an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream. Surface water monitoring of the stormwater discharge is monitored at location (WGA000210) 25m downstream of the discharge point.

### 1.3 Resource consents

The Company holds three resource consents and a certificate of compliance, the details of which are summarised in the table below. Summaries of the conditions attached to each permit are set out in Section 3 of this report.

A summary of the various consent types issued by the Council are included in Appendix I, as are copies of all permits held by the Company during the period under review.

Consent number	Purpose	Granted	Review	Expires		
	Air discharge permit					
10578-1.0	To discharge emissions to air from the storage, blending and distribution of fertiliser.	August 2018	June 2026	June 2032		
	Discharges of waste to land	·	·			
10579-1.0	To discharge wash water from truck wash facilities into land via soakage pits.	August 2018	June 2026	June 2032		
10580-1.0	To discharge stormwater from a fertiliser storage facility and associated yard to land where it may enter an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream.	August 2018	June 2026	June 2032		
	Certificate of compliance					
7463-0To spread various organic and inorganic fertiliser onto and into land at various locations throughout the Taranaki region.Transferred at Stratford Jan		nuary 2012				

 Table 1
 Resource consents held by the Company

## 1.4 Monitoring programme

#### 1.4.1 Introduction

Section 35 of the RMA sets obligations upon the Council to gather information, monitor and conduct research on the exercise of resource consents within the Taranaki region. The Council is also required to assess the effects arising from the exercising of these consents and report upon them.

The Council may therefore make and record measurements of physical and chemical parameters, take samples for analysis, carry out surveys and inspections, conduct investigations and seek information from consent holders.

The monitoring programme for the Company site consisted of three primary components.

#### 1.4.2 Programme liaison and management

There is generally a significant investment of time and resources by the Council in:

- ongoing liaison with resource consent holders over consent conditions and their interpretation and application;
- discussion over monitoring requirements;

- preparation for any consent reviews, renewals or new consent applications;
- advice on the Council's environmental management strategies and content of regional plans; and
- consultation on associated matters.

#### 1.4.3 Site inspections

The Osflo fertiliser site was visited quarterly during the monitoring period for routine inspections. With regard to consents to discharge to water, the main points of interest were plant processes with potential or actual discharges to receiving watercourses. This included contaminated stormwater and process wastewaters. Air inspections focused on plant processes with associated actual and potential emission sources and characteristics, including potential odour, dust, noxious or offensive emissions. The neighbourhood was surveyed for environmental effects.

#### 1.4.4 Chemical sampling

The Council undertook sampling of the surface water of the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream, downstream of the discharge point, post the mixing zone at location WGA000210 (Figure 1). The stormwater was not discharging at location STW002100 during any of the monitoring visits, as it only discharges during periods of extreme rainfall. Accordingly, no samples were collected from this source during the monitoring period.

Four surface water monitoring rounds were undertaken on the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream, just below the mixing zone. As per the discharge consent 10580-1.0, the surface water monitoring location (WGA000210) is located 25m downstream of the discharge. This location is monitored for the following parameters:

- Total ammoniacal nitrogen
- Un-ionised ammonia/Free ammonia
- Turbidity
- pH
- Temperature
- Dissolved carbonaceous bio-chemical oxygen demand
- Dissolved reactive phosphorus
- E. coli
- Electrical conductivity

## 2. Results

### 2.1 Inspections

Inspections and sampling were undertaken at the Osflo facility on 23 August 2023, 15 November 2023, 21 March 2024 and 19 June 2024.

During all of the inspections no odour was noted at the site entrance on Mountain Road. The amount of product on site varied through the year depending on the season. Site housekeeping was excellent with no tracking of litter from the shed to the outdoor areas apparent. The storage and truck areas were tidy, the sump continues to be cleaned out regularly. The relocated water tanks at the back of the shed are now completely operational. The pond systems were secure and functioning as intended.

The 'deodoriser' utilising water and no additives became fully automated during August 2023. It required some minor adjustments in order to operate during the relevant climatic conditions to enable reduction of odour effects for the neighbours. Adjustments continue to be made to fine tune the operation, and occasionally it is switched on manually.

During the June inspection it was noted that the pedestrian entrances to the shed now had a protected doorway porch to prevent wind and rain from entering the shed.

During each inspection a sample of the stream was obtained. The samples were clean and clear with no sheen or odour, iron oxide is naturally present in the stream. There was no discharge from the stormwater system to sample during any of the inspections.

At the time of each inspection the Company were operating in compliance with their resource consents.

## 2.2 Water

#### 2.2.1 Results of discharge monitoring

As previously discussed, the only discharge to surface water is stormwater during extreme rainfall events. The surface water running off the site is derived from roof surfaces and surrounding hard standing areas at the facility. Four surface water samples were collected from the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream, at sample location WGA000210 (Figure 1).

The discharge of stormwater is a consented activity. Specifically, the discharge quality must meet the criteria defined by condition 3 of consent 10580-1.0. This stipulates the discharge must be within the following standards:

- pH within the range of 6.0-9.0
- Total recoverable oil and grease no greater than 15g/m<sup>3</sup>.
- Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand no greater than 10g/m<sup>3</sup>.
- Dissolved reactive phosphorus no greater than 5g/m<sup>3</sup>.
- Suspended solids no greater than 100g/m<sup>3</sup>.
- Ammoniacal nitrogen no greater than 5g/m<sup>3</sup>.

In addition to condition 3, condition 4 details that the following effects should not occur as a result of a stormwater discharge, beyond a 25m mixing zone.

- The production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials;
- Any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity;

- Any emission of objectionable odour;
- The rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals;
- Any significant adverse effects on aquatic life;
- A rise in dissolved carbonaceous biochemical oxygen of greater than 2.0g/m<sup>3</sup>; and
- Un-ionised ammonia (free ammonia) exceeding 0.025g/m<sup>3</sup>.

In order to assess these conditions the Council collected four surface water samples from the receiving waters of the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream (WGA000210). The results are provided in the following table.

Osflo surface water monitoring	Site	Consent limit 10580-1.0	WGA000210	WGA000210	WGA000210	WGA000210
	Date	(Conditions	23 Aug 2023	15 Nov 2023	21 Mar 2024	19 Jun 2024
Parameter	arameter Time		13:00	12:40	11:57	10:45
Sample Temperature	°C	-	12.3	16.2	12.4	11.8
Dissolved C- Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD <sub>5</sub> )	g O²/m³	a rise in dissolved CBOD of $\leq 2.0$ g/m <sup>3</sup>	1.5	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0
Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus	g/m³	≤5	<0.004	<0.004	<0.004	<0.004
Electrical	μS/cm	-	119	125	139	122
Conductivity (EC)	mS/m	-	11.9	12.5	13.9	12.2
E. coli	MPN / 100mL	-	461	1,203	214	84
Free Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> )	g/m³	≤0.025	0.00129	0.0024	0.00097	0.00072
рН	pH Units	6.0 to 9.0	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.7
Total Ammoniacal-N (NH₄N)	g/m³	≤5	0.96	1.16	0.81	0.51
Turbidity - ISO 7027 Method	FNU	-	2.5	1.5	9.8	5.4

Table 2 Osflo surface water monitoring results 2023/24

• A sample of the stormwater discharge (STW002100) was not collected during this monitoring period due to the fact the Company was not discharging during inspection times.

- The four samples of the receiving waters (WGA000210) were compliant with condition 4 of consent 10580-1.0 regardless of the fact that there was no stormwater discharge.
- All washwater from the truck wash occurs to land, by land soakage, via a multi soakage pond system (Figure 1).

### 2.3 Incidents, investigations, and interventions

The monitoring programme for the year was based on what was considered to be an appropriate level of monitoring, review of data, and liaison with the Company. During the year matters may arise which require additional activity by the Council, for example provision of advice and information, or investigation of potential or actual causes of non-compliance or failure to maintain good practices. A pro-active approach, that in the first instance avoids issues occurring, is favoured.

For all significant compliance issues, as well as complaints from the public, the Council maintains a database record. The record includes events where the individual/organisation concerned has itself notified the Council. Details of any investigation and corrective action taken are recorded for non-compliant events.

Complaints may be alleged to be associated with a particular site. If there is potentially an issue of legal liability, the Council must be able to prove by investigation that the identified individual/organisation is indeed the source of the incident (or that the allegation cannot be proven).

Table 3 below sets out details of any incidents recorded, additional investigations, or interventions required by the Council in relation to the Company's activities during the 2023/24 period. This table presents details of all events that required further investigation or intervention regardless of whether these were found to be compliant or not.

Date	Details	Compliant (Y/N)	Enforcement Action Taken?	Outcome
04/10/23	A complaint was received by a member of the public regarding odour being emitted from the Company site.	Y	N/A	Upon arrival at complainant's property no odour was detected, therefore no odour survey was completed. Nothing unusual occurring on site, and the alleged offender was advised of the complaint. No further action.
24/5/24	A complaint was received by a member of the public regarding odour being emitted from the Company site.	Y	N/A	An investigation at the complainant's property found that the wind direction had shifted and was no longer flowing in a direction from the alleged site. An odour survey failed to detect odour and this was corroborated by the complainant. The alleged offender was advised of the complaint. No further action.

 Table 3
 Incidents, investigations, and interventions summary table

## 3. Discussion

### 3.1 Discussion of site performance

The Company facility at 1319 Mountain Road completed its third full monitoring period. This site became operational in February 2019.

During the monitoring period there were no process changes undertaken by the Company. There have been two odour complaints from members of the public, these were investigated and the Company was deemed to be compliant on both occasions. During all site inspections no odour was noticeable at or beyond the site boundary.

The development of the VEBs along the western and southern boundaries continue to grow and establish. No further areas of planting were carried out during this period, the Company concentrated on maintaining the current VEB areas.

During the previous monitoring year the Company installed a 'deodoriser' utilising collected rainwater on the embankment behind the shed to further assist with odour control. It does not operate continuously but under certain climatic conditions. It is proving to be effective in reducing the odour for neighbouring properties. Adjustments continue to improve the effectiveness.

The washwater from truck wash facilities continue to function as planned. The partially enclosed truck wash reduces the potential for spray drift, and the associated concrete pad area was observed as clean during inspections, demonstrating regular housekeeping. The concrete platform adjacent to the truck wash where the trucks can move to for polishing after washing was also kept tidy as observed during site inspections. There were no visible signs of the treatment ponds overflowing and these are monitored by site staff. Regular cleaning out and desludging occurs as and when required.

The stormwater discharge to the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream only occurs under significant heavy rainfall. In this monitoring period there was no discharge and therefore no samples were collected.

The Company continue to adhere to their Odour Risk Management Plan and the Stormwater Management Plan.

### 3.2 Environmental effects of exercise of consents

Environmental effects associated with the exercise of consents will be discussed for each consent.

## To discharge emissions to air from the storage, blending and distribution of fertiliser, consent 10578-1.0.

No noticeable odour was observed at the site entrance, or at or beyond the boundary during all site inspections. The facility is allowed noticeable, but not objectionable or offensive odour at or beyond the boundary of the site. Noticeable odour has in the past been noted during incidents and subsequent investigations, both at complainant's properties as well as at the site entrance. This has occurred, on occasion, during loading and unloading exercises, when the material is agitated, or fresh from the supplier.

During this monitoring period the Council received two odour complaints from members of the public, the incidents were investigated and the Company was deemed compliant on both occasions.

The Company remains to be proactive in their odour mitigation efforts. The VEBs are establishing well and being maintained regularly. This passive mitigation measure will take time to continue to mature.

The Company installed a 'deodoriser' during the previous monitoring period, and this is located at the back of the storage shed with the objective of mitigating odour. This is operated using rainwater on a 'when and as required' basis, depending on the meteorological conditions.

The facility has a functional odour risk management plan which is referred to when needed. This also requires the Company to assess the odour potential of incoming fresh product and to divert the product, if possible, if it is found to be vastly odorous.

There were no significant environmental effects from the discharge of emissions to air.

#### To discharge washwater from truck wash facilities to land via soakage, consent 10579-1.0.

Minimal effects were noted from the exercise of this consent. No overflow has been observed. The ponds have a regular clean out schedule which occurs, as noted during inspections.

## To discharge stormwater from a fertiliser storage facility and associated yard where it may enter an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream, consent 10580-1.0.

In this monitoring period no samples of the discharge were obtained as no discharge occurred. The unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream was sampled on four separate occasions this monitoring period. These results were found to be compliant with consent conditions on all occasions.

There were no significant environmental effects in relation to this consent.

## 3.3 Evaluation of performance

A tabular summary of the consent holder's compliance record for the year under review is set out in Tables 3-6.

Table 4 Summary of performance for consent 10578-1.0

	Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?
1.	Display best practicable option to minimise adverse effects on the environment associated with the discharge of contaminants into the air from the site	Inspections	Yes
2.	The discharges authorised by this consent shall not give rise to any odour that is offensive or objectionable at or beyond the boundary of the site	Inspections and odour surveys	Yes
3.	The consent holder shall advise the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, prior to making any change in the processes undertaken at the site, which could alter the nature of the discharge	Council notifications	Yes
4.	The site shall be operated in accordance with an 'Odour Management Plan' (OMP)	Provided 8 July 2019	Yes
5.	Optional review of consent	Next review June 2026	N/A
	rerall assessment of consent compliance nsent	High	
O١	verall assessment of administrative perfo	rmance in respect of this consent	High

N/A = not applicable

Table 5         Summary of performance for consent 10579	9-1.0
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	Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?
1.	The exercise of this consent shall be undertaken in general accordance with the information provided in support of the application for this consent	Inspections	Yes
2.	<ul> <li>The consent holder shall at all times adopt the best practicable option including by:</li> <li>a. removing as much solid matter from the truck as practicable before washing it; and</li> <li>b. removing accumulated solid material from the soakage pit as</li> </ul>	Inspections	Yes
3.	necessary This consent shall lapse on 30 September 2023, unless the consent is given effect to before the end of that period	Effect given	Yes
4.	Optional review of consent	Next review June 2026	N/A
	rerall assessment of consent compliance nsent	and environmental performance in respect of this	High
O٧	erall assessment of administrative perfor	mance in respect of this consent	High

#### N/A = not applicable

#### Table 6 Summary of performance for consent 10580-1.0

Purpose: To discharge stormwater from a fertiliser storage facility and associated yard to land where it may enter an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream			
Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?	
<ol> <li>The consent holder shall at all times adopt the best practicable option, including by:</li> </ol>	Inspections	Yes	
<ul> <li>a. removing as much solid matter from the truck as practicable before washing it; and</li> <li>b. removing accumulated solid material from the soakage pit as necessary</li> </ul>			
2. The stormwater discharged shall only be from the area shown on the plan attached as 'Appendix II'	Inspections	Yes	
<ol> <li>Constituents of any discharges to the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream that arise as a result of the exercise of this consent shall meet the standards:</li> </ol>	Sampling of discharge when possible	N/A	
• pH (6-9)			
• Oil and grease (<15g/m <sup>3</sup> )			
<ul> <li>Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD) (10g/m<sup>3</sup>)</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP) (5g/m<sup>3</sup>)</li> </ul>			
• Suspended solids (100g/m <sup>3</sup> )			
• Ammoniacal nitrogen (5g/m <sup>3</sup> )			

	Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved
4.	The discharge post a 25m mixing zone shall not cause the following effects in surface water: a. the production of any conspicuous	Inspection and sampling	Yes
	oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials;		
	<li>b. any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity;</li>		
	<li>c. any emission of objectionable odour;</li>		
	<ul> <li>the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals;</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>any significant adverse effects on aquatic life;</li> </ul>		
	<li>f. a rise in dissolved CBOD of greater than 2.0g/m<sup>3</sup>;</li>		
	<ul> <li>g. unionised ammonia exceeding 0.025g/m<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul>		
5.	Within 3 months of the consent being granted the consent holder shall submit and regularly update a 'Contingency Plan' that details measures and procedures that will be undertaken to prevent, and to avoid environmental effects from, a spillage or any discharge of contaminants not authorised by this consent	Plan received 9 December 2019	Yes
6.	Within 3 months of the consent being granted the site shall be operated in accordance with a 'Management Plan' prepared by the consent holder and approved by the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, acting in a certification capacity	Plan received 9 December 2019	Yes
7.	The consent holder shall notify the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, prior to making any changes to the processes or operations undertaken at the site, or the chemicals used or stored on site that could alter the nature of the discharge	Council notifications	Yes
8.	Optional review of consent	Next review June 2026	N/A
Ov	erall assessment of consent compliance an	d environmental performance in respect of this consent ance in respect of this consent	High

Purpose: To discharge stormwater from a fertiliser storage facility and associated yard to land where it may enter an

#### N/A = not applicable

Table 7	Evaluation of environmental performance over time
---------	---

Year	Consent no	High	Good	Improvement required	Poor
2019/20	10578-1, 10579-1, 10580-1	3	-	-	-
2020/21	10578-1, 10579-1, 10580-1	2	-	1	-
2021/22	10578-1, 10579-1, 10580-1	3	-	-	-

Year	Consent no	High	Good	Improvement required	Poor
2022/23	10578-1, 10579-1, 10580-1	3	-	-	-
2023/24	10578-1, 10579-1, 10580-1	3	-	-	-

During the year, the Company demonstrated a high level of environmental and high level of administrative performance with the resource consents as defined in Appendix II.

## 3.4 Recommendations from the 2023/24 Annual Report

In the 2023/24 Annual Report, it was recommended:

- 1. THAT in the first instance, monitoring of consented activities at the Company site in the 2023/24 year continue at the same level as in 2022/23.
- 2. THAT should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2023/24, monitoring may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention as found necessary.
- 3. If subsequent odour impacts reoccur, the Company may be requested to update their odour risk management plan (OMP).

Recommendation 1 was implemented. It was not considered necessary to carry out additional monitoring or investigation as per recommendation 2; and there was no need to implement recommendation 3.

## 3.5 Alterations to monitoring programmes for 2024/25

In designing and implementing the monitoring programmes for air/water discharges in the region, the Council has taken into account:

- the extent of information already made available through monitoring or other means to date;
- its relevance under the RMA;
- the Council's obligations to monitor consented activities and their effects under the RMA;
- the record of administrative and environmental performances of the consent holder; and
- reporting to the regional community.

The Council also takes into account the scope of assessments required at the time of renewal of permits, and the need to maintain a sound understanding of industrial processes within Taranaki exercising resource consents.

It is proposed that for 2024/25 monitoring period the compliance monitoring programme remains unchanged.

It should be noted that the proposed programme represents a reasonable and risk-based level of monitoring for the site in question. The Council reserves the right to subsequently adjust the programme from that initially prepared, should the need arise if potential or actual non-compliance is determined at any time during 2024/25.

## 4. Recommendations

- 1. THAT in the first instance, monitoring of consented activities at the Company site in the 2024/25 year continue at the same level as in 2023/24.
- 2. THAT should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2024/25, monitoring may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention as found necessary.

## Glossary of common terms and abbreviations

-	
Al*	Aluminium.
As*	Arsenic.
Biomonitoring	Assessing the health of the environment using aquatic organisms.
BOD	Biochemical oxygen demand. A measure of the presence of degradable organic matter, taking into account the biological conversion of ammonia to nitrate.
BODF	Biochemical oxygen demand of a filtered sample.
Bund	A wall around a tank to contain its contents in the case of a leak.
CBOD	Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand. A measure of the presence of degradable organic matter, excluding the biological conversion of ammonia to nitrate.
cfu	Colony forming units. A measure of the concentration of bacteria usually expressed as per 100 millilitre sample.
COD	Chemical oxygen demand. A measure of the oxygen required to oxidise all matter in a sample by chemical reaction.
Conductivity	Conductivity, an indication of the level of dissolved salts in a sample, usually measured at 25°C and expressed in $\mu$ S/cm.
Cu*	Copper.
Cumec	A volumetric measure of flow- 1 cubic metre per second (1m <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ).
DO	Dissolved oxygen.
DRP	Dissolved reactive phosphorus.
E.coli	Escherichia coli, an indicator of the possible presence of faecal material and pathological micro-organisms. Usually expressed as colony forming units per 100 millilitre sample.
Ent	Enterococci, an indicator of the possible presence of faecal material and pathological micro-organisms. Usually expressed as colony forming units per 100 millilitre of sample.
F	Fluoride.
FC	Faecal coliforms, an indicator of the possible presence of faecal material and pathological micro-organisms. Usually expressed as colony forming units per 100 millilitre sample.
FNU	Formazin nephelometric units, a measure of the turbidity of water.
Fresh	Elevated flow in a stream, such as after heavy rainfall.
g/m²/day	grams/metre <sup>2</sup> /day.
g/m³	Grams per cubic metre, and equivalent to milligrams per litre (mg/L). In water, this is also equivalent to parts per million (ppm), but the same does not apply to gaseous mixtures.
Incident	An event that is alleged or is found to have occurred that may have actual or potential environmental consequences or may involve non-compliance with a consent or rule in a regional plan. Registration of an incident by the Council does not automatically mean such an outcome had actually occurred.

The following abbreviations and terms may be used within this report:

Intervention	Action/s taken by Council to instruct or direct actions be taken to avoid or reduce the likelihood of an incident occurring.
Investigation	Action taken by Council to establish what were the circumstances/events surrounding an incident including any allegations of an incident.
Incident register	The incident register contains a list of events recorded by the Council on the basis that they may have the potential or actual environmental consequences that may represent a breach of a consent or provision in a Regional Plan.
L/s	Litres per second.
m <sup>2</sup>	Square Metres.
MCI	Macroinvertebrate community index; a numerical indication of the state of biological life in a stream that takes into account the sensitivity of the taxa present to organic pollution in stony habitats.
Mixing zone	The zone below a discharge point where the discharge is not fully mixed with the receiving environment. For a stream, conventionally taken as a length equivalent to 7 times the width of the stream at the discharge point.
MPN	Most Probable Number. A method used to estimate the concentration of viable microorganisms in a sample.
µS/cm	Microsiemens per centimetre.
NH <sub>4</sub>	Ammonium, normally expressed in terms of the mass of nitrogen (N).
NH <sub>3</sub>	Unionised ammonia, normally expressed in terms of the mass of nitrogen (N).
NO <sub>3</sub>	Nitrate, normally expressed in terms of the mass of nitrogen (N).
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a measure of the turbidity of water.
O&G	Oil and grease, defined as anything that will dissolve into a particular organic solvent (e.g. hexane). May include both animal material (fats) and mineral matter (hydrocarbons).
Pb*	Lead.
рН	A numerical system for measuring acidity in solutions, with 7 as neutral. Numbers lower than 7 are increasingly acidic and higher than 7 are increasingly alkaline. The scale is logarithmic i.e. a change of 1 represents a ten-fold change in strength. For example, a pH of 4 is ten times more acidic than a pH of 5.
Physicochemical	Measurement of both physical properties (e.g. temperature, clarity, density) and chemical determinants (e.g. metals and nutrients) to characterise the state of an environment.
$PM_{10}, PM_{2.5}, PM_{1.0}$	Relatively fine airborne particles (less than 10 or 2.5 or 1.0 micrometre diameter, respectively).
Resource consent	Refer Section 87 of the RMA. Resource consents include land use consents (refer Sections 9 and 13 of the RMA), coastal permits (Sections 12, 14 and 15), water permits (Section 14) and discharge permits (Section 15).
RMA	Resource Management Act 1991 and including all subsequent amendments.
SS	Suspended solids.
SQMCI	Semi quantitative macroinvertebrate community index.
Temp	Temperature, measured in °C (degrees Celsius).
Turb	Turbidity, expressed in NTU or FNU.
Zn*	Zinc.

\*an abbreviation for a metal or other analyte may be followed by the letters 'As', to denote the amount of metal recoverable in acidic conditions. This is taken as indicating the total amount of metal that might be solubilised under extreme environmental conditions. The abbreviation may alternatively be followed by the letter 'D', denoting the amount of the metal present in dissolved form rather than in particulate or solid form.

For further information on analytical methods, contact a manager within the Environment Quality Department.

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## Appendix I

## Resource consents held by Osflo Fertiliser Limited

(For a copy of the signed resource consent please contact the TRC Consents department)

#### Water abstraction permits

Section 14 of the RMA stipulates that no person may take, use, dam or divert any water, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent or a rule in a regional plan, or it falls within some particular categories set out in Section 14. Permits authorising the abstraction of water are issued by the Council under Section 87(d) of the RMA.

#### Water discharge permits

Section 15(1)(a) of the RMA stipulates that no person may discharge any contaminant into water, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent or a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Permits authorising discharges to water are issued by the Council under Section 87(e) of the RMA.

#### Air discharge permits

Section 15(1)(c) of the RMA stipulates that no person may discharge any contaminant from any industrial or trade premises into air, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Permits authorising discharges to air are issued by the Council under Section 87(e) of the RMA.

#### Discharges of wastes to land

Sections 15(1)(b) and (d) of the RMA stipulate that no person may discharge any contaminant onto land if it may then enter water, or from any industrial or trade premises onto land under any circumstances, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Permits authorising the discharge of wastes to land are issued by the Council under Section 87(e) of the RMA.

#### Land use permits

Section 13(1)(a) of the RMA stipulates that no person may in relation to the bed of any lake or river use, erect, reconstruct, place, alter, extend, remove, or demolish any structure or part of any structure in, on, under, or over the bed, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Land use permits are issued by the Council under Section 87(a) of the RMA.

#### **Coastal permits**

Section 12(1)(b) of the RMA stipulates that no person may erect, reconstruct, place, alter, extend, remove, or demolish any structure that is fixed in, on, under, or over any foreshore or seabed, unless the activity is expressly allowed for by a resource consent, a rule in a regional plan, or by national regulations. Coastal permits are issued by the Council under Section 87(c) of the RMA.

Certificate of compliance 7463-0

## **Certificate of Compliance**

### Pursuant to section 139 of the Resource Management Act 1991 a certificate of compliance is hereby issued by the Taranaki Regional Council

Name of certificate holder	Osflo Fertiliser Limited P O Box 761 New Plymouth 4340
Site location	Various locations throughout the Taranaki region [legal description: Various locations throughout the Taranaki region]
Proposal/Activity	To spread organic and inorganic fertiliser onto and into land at various locations throughout the Taranaki region
Certification	The Taranaki Regional Council hereby certifies that: the discharge of fertiliser onto and into land as outlined within the documentation supplied in support of the application is a permitted activity under Rule 31 of the RFWP at the date of receipt of the application for this certificate provided that it complies with and continues to comply with the following conditions: • Fertiliser is approved for use under section 5 of the Fertilisers Act 1960 or under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary
	<ul> <li>Medicines Act 1997;</li> <li>Discharger shall at all times adopt the best practicable option to prevent or minimise any adverse effects of fertiliser drift beyond the boundary of the target property or on other non-target areas within the boundary of the property;</li> </ul>

- If discharge is by any other method than aerial application, discharge shall not occur directly on or above a river, lake, wetland or other surface water body, including any drain which is discharging to a surface water body; or
- If discharge is by aerial application, fertiliser shall be applied in a manner which does not cause or is not likely to cause an adverse effect from deposition into a river, lake, wetland or other surface water body, including any drain which discharges to a surface water body.

Any discharge which causes any of the above conditions to be breached is not permitted and may be the subject of enforcement action.

Transferred at Stratford on 17 January 2012

For and on behalf of Taranaki Regional Council

**Director—Resource Management** 

#### Discharge Permit Pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991 a resource consent is hereby granted by the Taranaki Regional Council

Name of	Osflo Fertiliser Limited
Consent Holder:	PO Box 761
	New Plymouth 4340

- Decision Date: 17 August 2018
- Commencement Date: 17 August 2018

### **Conditions of Consent**

Consent Granted:	To discharge emissions to air from the storage, blending and distribution of fertiliser
Expiry Date:	1 June 2032
Review Date(s):	June 2020 and at 2-yearly intervals thereafter and in accordance with special condition 5
Site Location:	1319 Mountain Road, Inglewood
Grid Reference (NZTM)	1705313E-5667164N

#### **General condition**

a. The consent holder shall pay to the Taranaki Regional Council all the administration, monitoring and supervision costs of this consent, fixed in accordance with section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

#### **Special conditions**

- 1. At all times the consent holder shall adopt the best practicable option (as defined in section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991) to prevent or minimise any actual or likely adverse effect on the environment associated with the discharge of contaminants into the air from the site.
- 2. The discharges authorised by this consent shall not give rise to any odour that is offensive or objectionable at or beyond the boundary of the site, as shown in 'Appendix 1'.
- 3. The consent holder shall advise the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, prior to making any change in the processes undertaken at the site, which could alter the nature of the discharge. Any such change shall then only occur following receipt of any necessary approval under the Resource Management Act 1991. Notification shall include the consent number, a brief description of the activity consented and an assessment of the environmental effects of any changes, and be emailed to <u>consents@trc.govt.nz</u>.
- 4. The site shall be operated in accordance with an 'Odour Management Plan' (OMP) prepared by the consent holder and approved by the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, acting in a certification capacity. The plan shall detail how the site will be managed to achieve compliance with the consent conditions and shall address the following matters:
  - a) raw material quality check and acceptance;
  - b) washwater pond de-sludging procedure;
  - c) monitoring of stored product including records of product storage and transfer;
  - d) operation of a meteorological recording station;
  - e) site odour assessments;
  - f) operation and maintenance procedures;
  - g) prevention of off-site odour emissions;
  - h) staff training; and
  - i) contingency procedures.

- 5. In accordance with section 128 and section 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Taranaki Regional Council may serve notice of its intention to review, amend, delete or add to the conditions of this resource consent by giving notice of review:
  - a) during the month of June 2020 and at 2-yearly intervals thereafter; and/or
  - b) within 3 months of receiving a notification under special condition 3 above.

for the purpose of ensuring that the conditions are adequate to deal with any adverse effects on the environment arising from the exercise of this resource consent, which were either not foreseen at the time the application was considered or which it was not appropriate to deal with at the time.

Signed at Stratford on 17 August 2018

For and on behalf of Taranaki Regional Council

A D McLay Director - Resource Management

Appendix 1: Boundary of the site.



#### Discharge Permit Pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991 a resource consent is hereby granted by the Taranaki Regional Council

Name of	Osflo Fertiliser Limited
Consent Holder:	PO Box 761
	New Plymouth 4340

- Decision Date: 17 August 2018
- Commencement Date: 17 August 2018

### **Conditions of Consent**

Consent Granted:	To discharge washwater from truck wash facilities into land via soakage pits
Expiry Date:	1 June 2032

- Review Date(s): June 2020 and at 2-yearly intervals thereafter
- Site Location: 1319 Mountain Road, Inglewood
- Grid Reference (NZTM) 1705252E-5667255N
- Catchment: Waiongana

#### **General condition**

a. The consent holder shall pay to the Taranaki Regional Council all the administration, monitoring and supervision costs of this consent, fixed in accordance with section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

#### **Special conditions**

- 1. The exercise of this consent shall be undertaken in general accordance with the information provided in support of the application for this consent. Where there is conflict between the application and consent conditions, the conditions shall prevail.
- 2. The consent holder shall at all times adopt the best practicable option, as defined in section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991, to prevent or minimise any adverse effects of the discharge on the environment, including by:
  - a) removing as much solid matter from the truck as practicable (e.g. by sweeping) before washing it; and
  - b) removing accumulated solid material from the soakage pit as necessary.
- 3. This consent shall lapse on 30 September 2023, unless the consent is given effect to before the end of that period or the Taranaki Regional Council fixes a longer period pursuant to section 125(1)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 4. In accordance with section 128 and section 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Taranaki Regional Council may serve notice of its intention to review, amend, delete or add to the conditions of this resource consent by giving notice of review during the month of June 2020 and at 2-yearly intervals thereafter for the purpose of:
  - a) ensuring that the conditions are adequate to deal with any adverse effects on the environment arising from the exercise of this resource consent, which were either not foreseen at the time the application was considered or which it was not appropriate to deal with at the time; and
  - b) requiring the installation of monitoring bores to determine effects on groundwater, and potential effects on surface water, if sampling of the discharge indicates the need for such monitoring.

Signed at Stratford on 17 August 2018

For and on behalf of Taranaki Regional Council

A D McLay Director - Resource Management

#### Discharge Permit Pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991 a resource consent is hereby granted by the Taranaki Regional Council

Name of	Osflo Fertiliser Limited
Consent Holder:	PO Box 761
	New Plymouth 4340

- Decision Date: 17 August 2018
- Commencement Date: 17 August 2018

### **Conditions of Consent**

Consent Granted: To discharge stormwater from a fertiliser storage facility and associated yard to land where it may enter an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream

Expiry Date: 1 June 2032

Review Date(s): June 2020 and at 2-yearly intervals thereafter and in accordance with special condition 8

- Site Location: 1319 Mountain Road, Inglewood
- Grid Reference (NZTM) 1705252E-5667362N
- Catchment: Waiongana

#### **General condition**

a. The consent holder shall pay to the Taranaki Regional Council all the administration, monitoring and supervision costs of this consent, fixed in accordance with section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

#### **Special conditions**

- 1. The consent holder shall at all times adopt the best practicable option, as defined in section 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991, to prevent or minimise any adverse effects on the environment from the exercise of this consent.
- 2. The stormwater discharged shall only be from the area shown on the plan attached as 'Appendix 2'.
- 3. Constituents of any discharges to the unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream that arise as a result of the exercise of this consent shall meet the standards shown in the following table.

Constituent	Standard
pH	Within the range 6.0 to 9.0
total recoverable oil and grease	Concentration not greater than 15 gm <sup>-3</sup>
CBOD (carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand)	10 gm <sup>-3</sup>
dissolved reactive phosphorus	5 gm <sup>-3</sup>
suspended solids	100 gm <sup>-3</sup>
ammoniacal nitrogen	5 gm <sup>-3</sup>

- 4. After allowing for reasonable mixing, within a mixing zone extending 25 metres downstream of the discharge point, the discharge shall not, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, give rise to any or all of the following effects in the receiving water:
  - a) the production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials;
  - b) any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity;
  - c) any emission of objectionable odour;
  - d) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals;
  - e) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life;
  - f) a rise in dissolved carbonaceous biochemical oxygen of greater than  $2.0 \text{ g/m}^3$ ; and
  - g) un-ionised ammonia exceeding  $0.025 \text{ g/m}^3$ .
- 5. Within 3 months of the consent being granted the consent holder shall submit and regularly update a 'Contingency Plan' that details measures and procedures that will be undertaken to prevent, and to avoid environmental effects from, a spillage or any discharge of contaminants not authorised by this consent. The plan and any amended versions shall be provided to the Chief Executive of the Taranaki Regional Council.

- 6. Within 3 months of the consent being granted the site shall be operated in accordance with a 'Management Plan' prepared by the consent holder and approved by the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, acting in a certification capacity. The plan shall detail how the site is to be managed to minimise the contaminants that become entrained in the stormwater and shall include as minimum:
  - a) the loading and unloading of materials;
  - b) general housekeeping; and
  - c) management of the treatment systems.

Note: A Stormwater Management Plan template is available in the Environment section of the Taranaki Regional Council's web site <u>www.trc.govt.nz</u>.

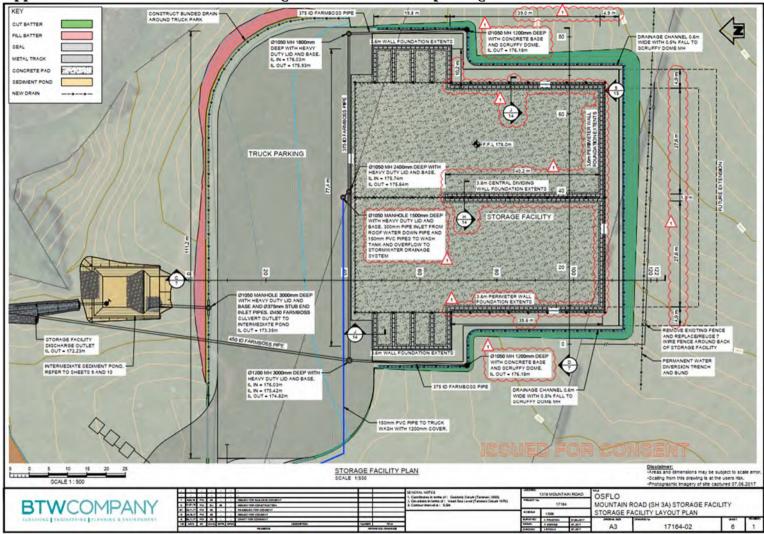
- 7. The consent holder shall notify the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, prior to making any changes to the processes or operations undertaken at the site, or the chemicals used or stored on site that could alter the nature of the discharge. Any such change shall then only occur following receipt of any necessary approval under the Resource Management Act, 1991. Notification shall include the consent number, a brief description of the activity consented and an assessment of the environmental effects of any changes, and be emailed to <u>consents@trc.govt.nz</u>.
- 8. In accordance with section 128 and section 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Taranaki Regional Council may serve notice of its intention to review, amend, delete or add to the conditions of this resource consent by giving notice of review:
  - a) during the month of June 2020 and at 2-yearly intervals thereafter; and/or
  - b) within 3 months of receiving a notification under special condition 7 above;

for the purpose of ensuring that the conditions are adequate to deal with any adverse effects on the environment arising from the exercise of this resource consent, which were either not foreseen at the time the application was considered or which it was not appropriate to deal with at the time.

Signed at Stratford on 17 August 2018

For and on behalf of Taranaki Regional Council

A D McLay Director - Resource Management



Appendix 2: Area of stormwater, including roof water and truck parking.

Appendix II

Categories used to evaluate environmental and administrative performance

# Categories used to evaluate environmental and administrative performance

Environmental performance is concerned with <u>actual or likely effects</u> on the receiving environment from the activities during the monitoring year. Administrative performance is concerned with the Company's approach to demonstrating consent compliance in site operations and management including the timely provision of information to Council (such as contingency plans and water take data) in accordance with consent conditions.

Events that were beyond the control of the consent holder <u>and</u> unforeseeable (that is a defence under the provisions of the RMA can be established) may be excluded with regard to the performance rating applied. For example loss of data due to a flood destroying deployed field equipment.

The categories used by the Council for this monitoring period, and their interpretation, are as follows:

#### **Environmental Performance**

- **High:** No or inconsequential (short-term duration, less than minor in severity) breaches of consent or regional plan parameters resulting from the activity; no adverse effects of significance noted or likely in the receiving environment. The Council did not record any verified unauthorised incidents involving environmental impacts and was not obliged to issue any abatement notices or infringement notices in relation to such impacts.
- **Good:** Likely or actual adverse effects of activities on the receiving environment were negligible or minor at most. There were some such issues noted during monitoring, from self-reports, or during investigations of incidents reported to the Council by a third party but these items were not critical, and follow-up inspections showed they have been dealt with. These minor issues were resolved positively, co-operatively, and quickly. The Council was not obliged to issue any abatement notices or infringement notices in relation to the minor non-compliant effects however, abatement notices may have been issued to mitigate an identified potential for an environmental effect to occur.

For example:

- High suspended solid values recorded in discharge samples however, the discharge was to land or to receiving waters that were in high flow at the time;
- Strong odour beyond boundary but no residential properties or other recipient nearby.
- **Improvement required**: Likely or actual adverse effects of activities on the receiving environment were more than minor, but not substantial. There were some issues noted during monitoring, from self-reports, or during investigations of incidents reported to the Council by a third party. Cumulative adverse effects of a persistent minor non-compliant activity could elevate a minor issue to this level. Abatement notices and infringement notices may have been issued in respect of effects.
- **Poor:** Likely or actual adverse effects of activities on the receiving environment were significant. There were some items noted during monitoring, from self-reports, or during investigations of incidents reported to the Council by a third party. Cumulative adverse effects of a persistent moderate non-compliant activity could elevate an 'improvement required' issue to this level. Typically there were grounds for either a prosecution or an infringement notice in respect of effects.

#### Administrative performance

**High:** The administrative requirements of the resource consents were met, or any failure to do this had trivial consequences and were addressed promptly and co-operatively.

- **Good:** Perhaps some administrative requirements of the resource consents were not met at a particular time however, this was addressed without repeated interventions from the Council staff. Alternatively adequate reason was provided for matters such as the no or late provision of information, interpretation of 'best practical option' for avoiding potential effects, etc.
- **Improvement required:** Repeated interventions to meet the administrative requirements of the resource consents were made by Council staff. These matters took some time to resolve, or remained unresolved at the end of the period under review. The Council may have issued an abatement notice to attain compliance.
- **Poor:** Material failings to meet the administrative requirements of the resource consents. Significant intervention by the Council was required. Typically there were grounds for an infringement notice.