

# Remediation New Zealand Ltd Waitara Road Facility

Monitoring Programme Annual Report 2023/24 Technical Report 2024-57

Taranaki Regional Council Private Bag 713 Stratford

ISSN: 1178-1467 (Online)

Document: TRCID-176456519-133 (Word) Document: TRCID-1188382587-419 (Pdf)

March 2025

## **Executive summary**

Remediation NZ Ltd (the Company) operates a greenwaste collection, processing, composting and worm farming facility at 96 Waitara Road, Brixton in the Waiongana Catchment. The Company holds one consent for the discharge stormwater onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream. The site is in the Te Atiawa rohe. The consent includes 11 conditions setting out minimum requirements that the Company must comply with.

This report discusses the 2023/24 compliance monitoring programme implemented by Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) to assess the Company's environmental and administrative performance during this period. In addition, it details the results of the site inspections and water quality sampling undertaken to assesses the environmental effects of the Company's activities.

During the 2023/24 monitoring period Remediation NZ Ltd demonstrated a high level of environmental performance, and a good level of administrative performance.

The Council's monitoring programme for the year under review included two inspections which found the Company was operating in accordance with the consent conditions. Several areas for improvement which had been identified during the previous year had been, or were in the process, of being addressed. The programme provides for sampling and analysis of the stormwater discharges into a farm drain for comparison against the pH and suspended solids limits in the consent conditions. There was no stormwater discharge during the inspection, and during the second inspection the flow was low and not able to be sampled. The drain is ephemeral and therefore any effects on water quality are likely to be negligible.

In terms of overall environmental and compliance performance by the Company over the last several years, this report concludes that the Company has maintained its good rating for the year under review. This report recommends that the monitoring for the 2024/25 programme largely continue at the same level as the 2023/24 programme, except that stormwater sampling be reduced to once per year, and on a provisional basis. The infrequent nature of the stormwater discharge, the low level of effects in an ephemeral waterway, and level of treatment in the stormwater system means there is a very low risk of significant adverse effects. In addition, the replacement consent requires the Company to undertake its own sampling and analysis and report the results to Council.

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 the 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.

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## 1. Introduction

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

#### 1.1.1 Introduction

This report details and discusses the results and findings of the 2023/24 monitoring programme undertaken by the Council to monitor Resource Consent 5892-2 held by Remediation New Zealand Ltd (the Company) for discharges of stormwater onto and into land, and into a tributary in the Waiongana Catchment. This is the fourth annual report to be prepared by the Council for the Company's stormwater discharges and associated environmental effects at this site (previously the discharges had been reported on as part of combined annual report).

## 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 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 at the Company's site.

Section 2 presents the results of monitoring during the period under review, including inspections and 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 listed 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 social-economic effects;
- b. physical effects on the locality, including landscape, amenity and visual effects;
- 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 management and, ultimately, through the refinement of methods and considered responsible resource utilisation, to move closer to achieving sustainable development of the region's resources.

#### 1.1.4 Evaluation of environmental performance

In addition to discussing the various details of the performance and extent of compliance by the consent holders, this report also assigns a rating to the 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 components. 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 the 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.

## 1.2 Process description

A full description of the activity can be found in the application documents for the resource consent. Greenwaste is collected from commercial greenwaste contractors and shredded onsite to create a consistent size fraction of material. Some of the greenwaste is composted at the Site (Figure 1), while the majority is transported to the Company's other composting operation located at Uruti Valley in North Taranaki.

The shredded material may be blended with additives such as chicken litter, vermicast, compost or fertiliser. These additives are stored in sheds and the blending is carried out in an enclosed facility. Composted material supplied from the Uruti site is applied to worm windrows at an average depth of 150-200mm (Figure 1). The worms work the top 100mm and convert the material to compost within 5 to 7 days. Aeration of the windrows is achieved using a metal arm with long 'teeth' mounted on a tractor which overturns the windrows. The covered windrows are 3m wide and separated by a 2m grassed swale. The final product, called vermicast, is collected and packaged for distribution as a fertiliser.

The additive material used to make the fertiliser are stored within onsite sheds (Figure 1). Mixing of fertiliser blends is carried out within a large shed immediately prior to dispatch of the product. The screened and blended compost is dispatched in covered trucks from the loading ramp to the northeast of the large storage shed. A vehicle washdown facility is provided between the storage sheds.

#### 1.2.1 Location

The layout of the site can be found in the annotated Figure 1 below. The surrounding properties are in pasture or market gardens and the property adjacent to the northern boundary is a contractor's yard. The nearest residential property is 60m to the south from the property boundary.



Figure 1 RNZ Waitara Road Facility map

#### Stormwater consent

Drainage flows from the north east boundary of the site closest to the worm beds toward the south west boundary (Figure 2). Surface stormwater from the worm beds and compost windrows is directed to open, grassed drains along the property boundary.

In 2021 two retention ponds and a swale (Figure 3) were constructed at the rear of the storage sheds to improve the management of stormwater generated on the site. Following a review (PDP) the two ponds were combined because the smaller pond was providing little benefit. All reticulated stormwater, except for roof water, is directed into this pond (Figure 2). Any overflow from the pond is diverted to the swale, now well vegetated, to the southern boundary of the site over a distance of approximately 70m The outlet of the swale goes into a farm drain (Figure 4) on the neighbouring property and is 2.5km from the nearest unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream. Based on observations and information from the consent holder the stormwater pond is dry for several months, and discharges to the swale or the farm drain are infrequent.

Stormwater from roofed catchments is directed to holding tanks and pumped back onto windrows.

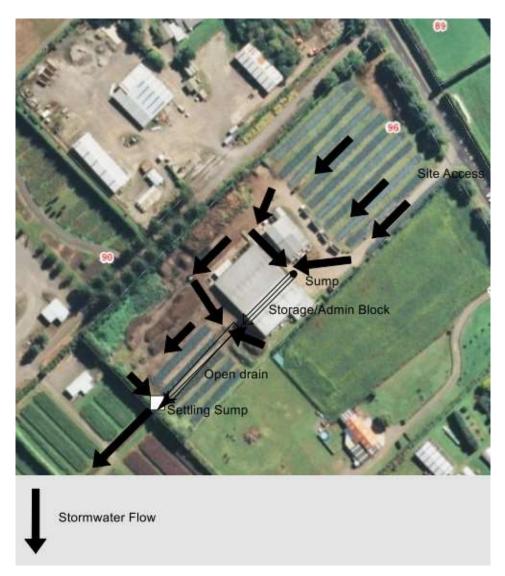


Figure 2 Stormwater drainage on the site



Figure 3 Vegetated swale from the stormwater pond to the property boundary



Figure 4 Farm drain on the neighbouring property

## 1.3 Resource consents

The Company holds one resource consent to discharge stormwater from worm farming operations onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream. During the monitoring period the Company was operating under Consent 5892-2 which expired in September 2020. On 4 July 2024 a replacement consent was issued, 5892-3, for a duration of 14 years. A summary of the various consent types issued by the Council is included in Appendix I, as is a copy of Consent 5892-2.

Table 1 Resource consent held by the Company

Consent number	Purpose	Granted	Review	Expires
	Water discharge p	ermits		
5892-2	To discharge stormwater from worm farming operations onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream	September 2006	-	June 2020
5892-3	To discharge stormwater from greenwaste processing, composting and worm farming operations onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream	July 2024	June 2026	1 June 2038

## 1.4 Monitoring programme

Section 35 of the RMA imposes obligations on 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 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 Remediation NZ Waitara Rd site consisted of three primary components.

## 1.4.1 Programme liaison and management

There can be a significant investment of time and resources by the Council in the following areas:

- liaison with resource consent holders about consent conditions, their interpretation and application;
- discussion about monitoring requirements;
- preparation of consent reviews, renewals or new consent applications;
- advice on the Council's environmental management strategies and content of regional plans; and
- consultation about associated matters.

#### 1.4.2 Site inspections

The Company's site was inspected two times during the monitoring period. With regard to consents for the discharge to stormwater the main points of interest were management of outdoor activities, overland flows, the condition of the stormwater treatment system, and discharges off the site with potential or actual effects on the receiving farm drain. Sources of data being collected by the Company were identified and accessed, so that performance in respect of operation, internal monitoring, and supervision could be reviewed by the Council. The neighbourhood was surveyed for environmental effects.

## 1.4.3 Water quality sampling

No water quality sampling was conducted this monitoring year. As reported the first site inspection found the stormwater pond dry, During the second inspection the flow from the pond and through the swale was slow, and the discharge into the tributary was a trickle and unsuitable for collecting a sample. Further discussion of potential effects from the stormwater discharge can be found in section 3.1.

## 2. Results

## 2.1 Inspections

#### 20 March 2024

The windrows at the front of the site were all covered and grassed in between. The outer grassed area was being mowed at the time. There was a sediment sock around the drain for the hard stand catchment. A large quantity of greenwaste was stockpiled on the northern boundary and likely to be mulched in the next 2-3 days. The compost shed was quite full but expected to be mostly emptied over the next few weeks after bulk compost deliveries. There was a weak, musty compost odour around the shed. The stormwater pond had been dry for several months, with some mud cracking at the base. The stormwater swale was well vegetated and not silted. The boundary stormwater outlet was in good condition with, no sign of erosion. There was no water flow or ponding in the farm drain beyond the boundary. The chicken feed shed was still to be fully enclosed. A small amount of leachate was observed at the rear of the shed on the hardstand and trickling into the sediment pond. Small amounts of litter was leaking from gaps in shed walls. The manager advised that once the chicken litter was cleared repairs would be made. The was a moderate ammonia odour in the shed, but weak outside the shed. Occasional self-combustion incidents occur and there may have been one occurring at the time as there was a smoky odour. This tends to smoulder rather than flare up.

### 18 July 2024

The wash pad was inspected and found to be generally in tidy condition. The sediment sock around the drain and the drain looked clear. Stockpiles of greenwaste, unscreened and screened compost were along the western boundary of the site. The screened compost was covered. The site was generally muddy which is typical for winter. Vehicle movements around the site are restricted at this time of year to minimise damage and sediment discharges. The stormwater pond was discharging to the vegetated swale but at a slow flow rate. Discharge into the stormwater drain was also at a trickle and not suitable for sampling. Puddles of water in the farm drain were noted, but there was no through flow at the time. Vegetation in the swale had recently been sprayed to avoid spill over the edges. Planting along the edges was establishing. Worm beds at the front and back of the site were covered. The chicken litter shed cladding was in the process of being repaired. Concrete blocks constrain the litter, and the cladding is replaced from the outside. There were no spills of litter or leachate outside the shed.

## 2.2 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. The database includes events where the individual/organisation concerned has notified the Council. Details of the investigation and corrective action taken are recorded for non-compliant events.

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

During the 2023/24 monitoring period the Council was not required to undertake additional investigations, interventions, or record any incidents, in association with the Company's resource consent conditions or provisions in Regional Plans. The Council did not receive any complaints about the Company's operation during the monitoring period.

## 3. Discussion

## 3.1 Discussion of site and environmental performance

As reported in the inspections notes in section 2.1 there were no stormwater discharge samples collected during this monitoring year because there was no discharge into the receiving drain. The Company reports that the storage capacity of the stormwater pond can retain any stormwater runoff during summer when conditions are drier, and largely remains dry for several months. The first inspection occurred at the end of summer and the pond was empty. In the 36 hours leading up to the second inspection there had been 16.5mm of rainfall at the Waiwhakaiho meteorological station. The pond was full and flowing slowly to the vegetated swale. The flow into the farm drain was a trickle and could not be sampled.

The consent also imposes contaminant limits on water quality of the farm drain beyond a mixing zone of approximately 7m. During each inspection there was no water flow in the farm drain. The second inspection noted a few puddles in the drain. The drain is well vegetated, indicating that this is an ephemeral rather than permanent waterway with no permanent connection to a stream or river. Given the nature of the stormwater contaminants and the stormwater treatment system it's unlikely that discharges result in any notable contamination of the receiving environment.

The 2021/22 annual report noted that there had been a general improvement in stormwater discharge quality due to recent upgrades to the stormwater management and treatment system, implemented following an external review (*Brixton Plant: Stormwater review*, prepared by Pattle Delamore Partners Ltd and dated 26 October 2021). The results of the sample collected during the same monitoring year were less than the consent limits, and the organonitro and phosphorus pesticides were less than the level of detection. The annual report for 2021/22 attributes this directly to the onsite improvements.

Inspections conducted during this monitoring year found the site to be generally well run and in a tidy condition. The Company was in the process of repairing the exterior cladding of the chicken litter storage shed to avoid spillages.

The Site Management Plan had not been reviewed since the changes to the stormwater system, and an updated plan had not been provided. No further action was taken because the replacement consent, issued shortly afterwards, requires an updated plan be submitted to Council.

## 3.2 Evaluation of compliance performance

A summary of the consent holder's compliance record for the year under review is set out in Table 2, and a history of the compliance record in Table 3.

Table 2 Summary of performance for Consent 5892-2

	Purpose 5892-2.0: To discharge stormwater from the worm farming operations onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the Waiongana Stream					
	Condition requirement Means of monitoring during period under review Compliance achieved?					
1.	Exercise of consent in accordance with information provided in application	Site inspections	Yes			
2.	Operation in accordance with best practicable option	Site inspections	Yes			
3.	Prepare and maintain stormwater management plan	Review of records - received 14 November 2016	No SMP not yet updated.			

Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?
4. Records nature and volume of wastes received	Liaison with consent holder	Yes Available on request
5. No contamination of ground or surface water	Site inspections and samples	Yes
Maintenance of stormwater treatment system and concentration limits	Site inspections and observations	Yes
7. Effects in tributary	Site inspections and observations	N/A
8. Windrows covered except when discharging	Site inspections	Yes
9. Alterations to processes and operations	Site inspections	Yes
10. Reinstatement of site at closure	Not required	N/A
11. Review of consent	Consent has expired, no further provision for review	N/A
Overall assessment of consent com	High	

#### N/A = not applicable

Table 3 Evaluation of environmental performance over time

Year	Consent no	High	Good	Improvement required	Poor
2019/20	5892-2	1	-	-	-
2020/21	5892-2	-	1	-	-
2021/22	5892-2	-	1	-	-
2022/23	5892-2		1		
2023/24	5892-2	1	-	-	-

During the year, the Company demonstrated a high level of environmental performance and a good level of administrative performance with the stormwater discharge Consent 5892-2 as defined in Appendix II.

## 3.3 Recommendations from the 2022/23 Annual Report

In the 2022/23 Annual Report it was recommended:

- 1. THAT an updated Stormwater Management Plan which incorporates recent stormwater upgrades should be provided this monitoring year.
- THAT repairs to the cladding of the chicken litter shed must be completed to minimise odour, dust and avoid spillage.
- 3. THAT inspections of consented activities and stormwater sampling at the site in the 2023/24 monitoring year shall continue at the same frequency as during 2022/23.
- 4. THAT should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2023/24, the monitoring programme may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention.

An updated stormwater management plan was not submitted as requested in an inspection notice and an email (21 March 2024). The replacement consent required an updated SMP to be submitted within three months of the consent being issued. Small gaps in the cladding of the chicken litter shed remained at the last inspection. The inspection frequency remained, and there were no adjustments to the monitoring programme to account for extra work.

## 3.4 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.

On the basis of this year's environmental and administrative performance this report does not recommend any changes to the monitoring programme for the 2023/24 monitoring programme. The site continues to be a low risk activity with minimal environmental impact when the consent conditions are met, and if management plans are followed. The triannual frequency for inspections, and sampling when possible, is considered reasonable for the low level of risk presented by discharges from the site. Council may conduct additional inspections in the event of non-compliance or an environmental incident.

## 4. Recommendations

- 1. THAT site inspections of consented activities at Remediation NZ Waitara in the 2024/25 year continue at the same level as in 2023/24.
- 2. THAT stormwater sampling be reduced to once per year (provisional) due to the infrequency of discharges, and the low level of potential effects.
- 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

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

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.

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.

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.

ONP Organonitro and phosphorus pesticides

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.

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

## Bibliography and references

- Ministry for the Environment (2018), Best Practice Guidelines for Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement under the Resource Management Act 1991. Wellington.
- Pattle Delamore Partners Ltd (2021), Brixton Plant: Stormwater review.
- Taranaki Regional Council (2023): Remediation New Zealand Ltd Uruti Waitara Road Facility Monitoring Programme Annual Report 2022/23 Technical Report 2023-41. Taranaki Regional Council, Stratford.
- Taranaki Regional Council (2023): Remediation New Zealand Ltd Uruti Waitara Road Facility Monitoring Programme Annual Report 2021-2022 Technical Report 2022-25. Taranaki Regional Council, Stratford.
- Taranaki Regional Council (2022): Remediation New Zealand Ltd Uruti Waitara Road Facility Monitoring Programme Annual Report 2020-2021 Technical Report 2021-80. Taranaki Regional Council, Stratford.

## Appendix I

Resource consents held by RNZ New Zealand Ltd Waitara Road Facility

(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.

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

Name of Remediation (NZ) Limited

Consent Holder: P O Box 8045

**NEW PLYMOUTH 4342** 

Consent Granted

Date:

7 September 2006

## **Conditions of Consent**

Consent Granted: To discharge stormwater from worm farming operations

onto and into land and into an unnamed tributary of the

Waiongana Stream at or about (NZTM)

1705949E-5679907N

Expiry Date: 1 June 2020

Review Date(s): June 2008, June 2014

Site Location: 96 Waitara Road, Brixton, Waitara

Legal Description: Lot 1 DP 19670 Blk III Paritutu SD

Catchment: Waiongana

#### **General conditions**

- a) On receipt of a requirement from the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council the consent holder shall, within the time specified in the requirement, supply the information required relating to the exercise of this consent.
- b) Unless it is otherwise specified in the conditions of this consent, compliance with any monitoring requirement imposed by this consent must be at the consent holder's own expense.
- c) The consent holder shall pay to the Council all required administrative charges fixed by the Council pursuant to section 36 in relation to:
  - i) the administration, monitoring and supervision of this consent; and
  - ii) charges authorised by regulations.

#### **Special conditions**

- 1. This consent shall be exercised generally in accordance with the information submitted in support of applications 1559 and 4037. In the case of any contradiction between the documentation submitted in support of applications 1559 and 4037 and the conditions of this consent, the conditions of this consent shall prevail.
- 2. At all times the consent holder shall adopt the best practicable option, as defined in section 2 of the Act, to prevent or minimise any actual or likely adverse effect on the environment associated with worm farming activities and the discharge of stormwater onto and into land.
- 3. Within three months of granting of this consent the consent holder shall prepare and maintain a stormwater management plan to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council. This plan shall be updated as required by any significant changes to plant processes.
- 4. The consent holder shall keep and make available to the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, upon request, records of the nature and volume of all wastes received at the site; such records to be kept for at least 12 months.
- 5. The exercise of this consent shall not result in any contamination of groundwater or surface water, other than as provided for in special condition 6 of this consent.
- 6. The stormwater treatment system shall be maintained to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council.

The following concentrations shall not be exceeded within the discharge effluent:

ComponentConcentrationpH (range)6.5-8.5suspended solids100 gm-3

#### Consent 5892-2

This condition shall apply prior to any stormwater prior to leaving the site into the neighbouring drain, at a designated sampling point approved by the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council.

- 7. After allowing for reasonable mixing, with a mixing zone extending seven times the width of the receiving waters downstream of the discharge point, the discharge shall not give rise to any of the following effects in the receiving waters of the unnamed tributary:
  - 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 or objectionable odour;
  - d) the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by farm animals;
  - e) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.
- 8. The consent holder shall ensure that except when discharging, windrows shall be covered at all times.
- 9. Prior to undertaking any alterations to the processes or operations which significantly change the nature or quantity of contaminants emitted from the site, the consent holder shall consult with the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, and shall obtain any necessary approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 10. The Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, shall be advised in writing at least 48 hours prior to the reinstatement of the site and the reinstatement shall be carried out so as to minimise effects on stormwater quality, and to meet the criteria of Tables 4.11, 4.14 & 4.20 of the Ministry for the Environment (1999) document 'Guidelines for Assessing & Managing Petroleum Hydrocarbon Contaminated sites in N.Z.'.
- 11. 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 2008 and/or June 2014, 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.

For and on behalf of

Transferred at Stratford on 22 September 2008

Taranaki Regional Council
Director-Resource Management

## 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 <u>in site operations and management</u> 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.