Central Greenwaste and Firewood

Monitoring Programme
Biennial Report
2020-2022

Technical Report 2022-05





Taranaki Regional Council Private Bag 713 Stratford

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Executive summary

Central Greenwaste and Firewood (the Company) operates a green waste collection and composting operation located at Victoria Road, Stratford, in the Patea catchment. Operations at the site were taken over from Central Greenwaste 2012 (formerly known as Greenwaste 2007 and Greenwaste 2008).

The Company collects green waste from domestic sources in the Stratford urban area and then composts it at its Victoria Road site. The principal components of green waste collected are lawn clippings and material from garden pruning.

This report for the period July 2020 to June 2022 describes the monitoring programme implemented by the 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 an improvement was required in their administrative performance.

The Company held consent 6876-1, which included a total of 11 conditions setting out the requirements that the consent holder must satisfy. This consent covers the discharge of green waste, stormwater and leachate to land. The consent was originally held by the Central Taranaki Employment Trust. It was subsequently transferred to Greenwaste 2007, then to Greenwaste 2008 and again to Central Greenwaste 2012. On 21 September 2017, the consent was transferred to Central Greenwaste and Firewood. The consent expired on 1 June 2022. An application for the re-issue of the consent was received on 28 June 2022 in the name of Westend Hire Ltd.

The Council's monitoring programme for the period under review included four inspections that focussed on assessing the materials being accepted for composting, general site operation, stormwater and leachate control, and odour. The programme liaison and management in the latter part of the period under review included an investment of time by the Council related to advising the Company on the requirements for an application to renew the consent.

As in previous years, the monitoring showed the site was compliant with consent conditions at the time of the inspections during the period under review. There were no unauthorised incidents recording non-compliance in respect of this consent holder during the period under review.

During the monitoring period, the Company demonstrated a high level of environmental performance and an improvement was required in their administrative performance as defined in Appendix II. During the majority of the 2020-2022 years, the Company demonstrated a high level of environmental and a high level of administrative performance with the resource consent. However, the consent expired on 1 June 2022. Although two applications have been submitted, a satisfactory application for re-issue of this consent is yet to be received, therefore an improvement in the administrative performance of the Company is required.

For reference, in the 2020-2021 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 86% of the consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 11% of the consents, a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved. In the 2021-2022 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 88% of the consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 10% of the consents, a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved.

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

This report includes recommendations for the 2022-2024 period.

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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 2020 to June 2022 by the Taranaki Regional Council (the Council) on the monitoring programme associated with resource consents held by Central Greenwaste and Firewood (the Company), who operate a green waste collection and composting facility located on Victoria Road at Stratford, in the Patea catchment.

This report covers the results and findings of the monitoring programme implemented by the Council in respect of the consent held by the Company that related to discharges of green waste, and the associated leachate and contaminated stormwater onto and into land in the Patea catchment. This is the eighth biennial report to be prepared by the Council to cover the Company's 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 consent held by the Company;
- 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 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 2022-2024 monitoring years.

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 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

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 2020-2021 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 86% of the consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 11% of the consents, a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved.

In the 2021-2022 year, consent holders were found to achieve a high level of environmental performance and compliance for 88% of the consents monitored through the Taranaki tailored monitoring programmes, while for another 10% of the consents, a good level of environmental performance and compliance was achieved.¹

1.2 Process description

The operation primarily consists of servicing green waste wheelie bins from domestic dwellings in Stratford. The green waste is collected, composted on site in windrows, and then sold as soil conditioner.

¹ The Council has used these compliance grading criteria for more than 18 years. They align closely with the 4 compliance grades in the MfE Best Practice Guidelines for Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement, 2018

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Figure 1 Location of Central Greenwaste and Firewood site, Victoria Rd, Stratford



Photo 1 Central Greenwaste and Firewood's composting operation

1.3 Resource consents

For the majority of the period under review, the Company held one resource consent, the details of which are summarised in the table below. A summary of the conditions that were attached to this permit are set out in Section 3 of this report.

This consent expired on 1 June 2022. An application for the re-issue of this consent was received on 28 June 2022 in the name of Westend Hire Limited. This was subsequently returned back to the applicant as deficient. Council is continuing to work with the Company to ensure that the activity complies with the RMA and rules in the Regional Freshwater Plan for Taranaki.

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

Table 1 Consent held by Central Greenwaste and Firewood

Consent number	Purpose	Granted	Review	Expiry Date
Discharges of waste to land				
6876-1	To discharge green waste onto land for the purpose of composting and to discharge leachate and contaminated stormwater from the composting process from that site onto and into land	14 Sep 2006	N/A	1 Jun 2022

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's site consisted of two 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 Company's site was visited four times during the period under review. The inspections focussed on assessing the types of materials being accepted, stormwater and leachate management and odours. The neighbourhood was surveyed for environmental effects.

2 Results

2.1 Water

2.1.1 Inspections

The site was inspected on 28 July 2020, 16 June and 1 December 2021, and 31 March 2022. At the inspection on 28 July 2020 it was found that, although the site was compliant with consent conditions at the time of inspection, there was a small amount of unacceptable waste present. The Company was contacted and it undertook to remove the material. It was noted that the site has been bunded by the neighbouring property to prevent potentially contaminated stormwater from leaving this site. The Company was instructed to ensure that this bund continued to be maintained. There was a small amount of ponding in the centre of site that was contained within the site boundary at the time of inspection. There was a slight odour from site, but this was not objectionable or offensive at the site boundary. The site was found to be compliant with consent conditions at the following three inspections carried out during the period under review, with no issues noted at any of these inspections.

2.2 Incidents, investigations, and interventions

The monitoring programme for the years under review was based on what was considered to be an appropriate level of monitoring, review of data, and liaison with the Company. During the period under review 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 2 below sets out details of any incidents recorded, additional investigations, or interventions required by the Council in relation to the activities during the 2020-2022 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.

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Table 2	Incidents	investigations,	and interventi	ons summar	/ table
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Date	Details	Compliant (Y/N)	Enforcement Action Taken?	Outcome
27/06/2022	Consent expired and activity continuing	N	N	Council working with the Company to ensure adequate application received. Company has now engaged a consultant to assist with this

3 Discussion

3.1 Discussion of site performance

The site was found to be compliant with consent conditions at the time of the inspections during the period under review. Although there was some unauthorised material present at one of the inspections, this was removed by the Company, and no further issues of this nature were found. The site had been bunded by a neighbouring property, with the Company instructed to maintain this bund. There was no leachate or contaminated stormwater observed to be discharging from the site during the 2020-2022 years.

The consent for this site expired on 1 June 2022. The Council followed this up with the Company on a number of occasions. An application for the re-issue of this consent was received on 28 June 2022, however this was returned back to the applicant as it did not contain sufficient information. Following a second returned application the Company has engaged a consultant to assist with the preparation of an application.

3.2 Environmental effects of exercise of consents

During the inspections, no evidence of adverse environmental effects was observed. There was no significant leachate, ponding or direct discharge to any waterways found and there were no issues in regard to dust. No objectionable of offensive odours were found, with only a slight odour on one occasion.

3.3 Evaluation of performance

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

Table 3 Summary of performance for consent 6876-1, expired 1 June 2022

	Purpose: To discharge green waste onto land for the purpose of composting and to discharge leachate and contaminated stormwater from the composting process from that site onto and into land				
	Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?		
1.	Adopt best practical option	Site inspections	Yes		
2.	Exercise consent in accordance with information supplied with application	Site inspections	Yes		
3.	Contingency plan to be prepared and maintained	Programme management	Yes		
4.	Site management plan to be prepared, maintained and adhered to.	Programme management	Yes		
5.	Notice requirements regarding changes to contingency and site management plans	No changes required or made	N/A		
6.	No more than 300 m ³ of green waste on site at any one time	Site inspections	Yes		
7.	Certain effects on Patea Rive prohibited	Site inspections	Yes		
8.	Only vegetative material to be composted	Site inspections	Yes		

Purpose: To discharge green waste onto land for the purpose of composting and to discharge leachate and contaminated stormwater from the composting process from that site onto and into land

Condition requirement	Means of monitoring during period under review	Compliance achieved?
9. No food waste, or domestic/industrial waste other than permitted in condition 8 to be discharged or composted	Site inspections	Yes
10. Consent lapse period	Consent has been exercised	N/A
11. Optional review provision re environmental effects	Not scheduled for consideration during year under review. No further opportunities before expiry	N/A
Overall assessment of consent compl of this consent	High	
Overall assessment of administrative	performance in respect of this consent	High

N/A = not applicable

Table 4 Evaluation of environmental performance over time

Year	High	Good	Improvement req	Poor
2010-2010	1	-	-	-
2012-2014	-	1	-	-
2014-2016	1	-	-	-
2016-2018	1	-	-	-
2018-2020	1	-	-	-
2020-2022	1	-	-	-
Totals	5	1	0	0

During the monitoring period, the Company demonstrated a high level of environmental performance and an improvement was required in their administrative performance as defined in Appendix II. During the majority of the 2020-2022 years, the Company demonstrated a high level of environmental and a high level of administrative performance with the resource consent. However, the consent expired on 1 June 2022. A satisfactory application for re-issue of this consent is yet to be received, therefore an improvement in the administrative performance of the Company is required.

3.4 Recommendations from the 2020-2022 Biennial Report

In the 2020-2022 Biennial Report, it was recommended:

- 1. That in the first instance, monitoring of consented activities at the Company's site in the 2020-2022 years continue at the same level as in 2018-2020.
- 2. That should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2020-2022 years, monitoring may be adjusted to reflect any additional investigation or intervention as found necessary.

Recommendation 1 was implemented, whilst recommendation 2 was not required.

3.5 Alterations to monitoring programmes for 2022-2024

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 2022-2024 the programme remains unchanged, however it is noted that changes may be required following the re-issuing of the consent

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 2022-2024.

4 Recommendations

- 1. That in the first instance, monitoring of consented activities at the Company's site in the 2022-2024 year continue at the same level as in 2020-2022, noting that changes may be required following the re-issuing of the consent.
- 2. That should there be issues with environmental or administrative performance in 2022-2024, 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:

Bund A wall around a tank to contain its contents in the case of a leak.

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.

m² Square metres: m³ Cubic metres.

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.

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- Taranaki Regional Council (2004): Regional Waste Strategy for Taranaki.

Appendix I

Resource consents held by Central Greenwaste and Firewood

(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.

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

Name of Central Greenwaste & Firewood

Consent Holder: 370 Broadway

Stratford 4332

Decision Date: 14 September 2006

Commencement Date: 14 September 2006

Conditions of Consent

Consent Granted: To discharge green waste onto land for the purpose of

composting and to discharge leachate and contaminated stormwater from the composting process from that site onto

and into land

Expiry Date: 1 June 2022

Site Location: Victoria Street, Stratford

Grid Reference (NZTM) 1712693E-5644276N

Catchment: Patea

For General, Standard and Special conditions pertaining to this consent please see reverse side of this document

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. 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 exercise of this consent shall be undertaken generally in accordance with the documentation submitted in support of application 4193. In the case of any contradiction between the documentation submitted in support of application 4193 and the conditions of this consent, the conditions of this consent shall prevail.
- 3. Within three months of granting this consent the consent holder shall prepare and maintain a site contingency plan to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council.
- 4. Within three months of granting this consent the consent holder shall prepare and maintain a site management plan to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, and shall adhere to such a plan in so far as it concerns the exercise of this consent at all times.
- 5. The consent holder shall advise the Taranaki Regional Council one month prior to any changes being made to the site contingency plan or the site management plan. Should the Taranaki Regional Council wish to review the site contingency plan and/or the site management plan, one month's notice shall be given to the consent holder.
- 6. The maximum quantity of vegetative waste composted and stored on the site at any time shall be 300 cubic metres, as determined by at least one enforcement officer of the Taranaki Regional Council.

Consent 6876-1

- 7. The discharge authorised by this consent, in conjunction with the exercise of any other consent associated with the composting activity on the property, shall not give rise to any of the following effects on the Patea River:
 - a) the production of 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.
- 8. Only vegetative material shall be composted at the site.
- 9. The consent holder shall not discharge or compost food waste, domestic or commercial waste at the site, other than that prescribed in special condition 8.
- 10. This consent shall lapse on the expiry of five years after the date of issue of this consent, 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.
- 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 2010 and/or June 2016, 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.

Transferred at Stratford on 21 September 2017

For and on behalf of Taranaki Regional Council

A D McLay **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.