

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING NO. PP22-3
HELD VIA ZOOM ONLY (AUDIO/VISUAL LINK) UNDER COVID-19 PROTECTION FRAMEWORK
RED (PHASE THREE) ON TUESDAY, 5 APRIL 2022 AT 9.30AM**

1 PRESENT

Mayor G Webber (Chairperson), Cr G Dally, Cr M Dean, Cr J Denyer, Cr M Grainger, Cr M Gray, Cr A Henry, Cr M Murray-Benge, Deputy Mayor J Scrimgeour, Cr A Sole and Cr D Thwaites

2 IN ATTENDANCE

J Holyoake (Chief Executive Officer), R Davie (General Manager Strategy and Community), E Watton (Policy and Planning Manager), S Parker (Reserves and Facilities Asset Systems Manager), C Nepia (Strategic Kaupapa Māori Manager), P van den Berg (Infrastructure Engineer Water), T Clow (Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management), H Wi Repa (Governance Technical Support), J Osborne (Governance Support Administrator), and B Clarke (Senior Governance Advisor)

3 APOLOGIES

APOLOGY

RESOLUTION PP22-3.1

Moved: Cr G Dally
Seconded: Cr D Thwaites

That the apology for absence from Cr Marsh be accepted.

CARRIED

4 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

6 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Nil.

7 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil.

8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

9 REPORTS

9.1 WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL'S FEEDBACK TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR SOURCES OF HUMAN DRINKING WATER) REGULATIONS 2007

The Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management's report was taken as read. Responses to questions were as follows:

- In relation to the proposal to discharge wastewater to land, and the implications, given this would inevitably have to be in a Source Water Risk Management Area (SWRMA) 2 zone or a third party's bore or river take, this was presenting a challenge for Council, the Ministry for Health, and the drinking water assessors.
- Where Council's bores were located in rural areas, a 5m exclusion zone from stock, and everything else was required. Council's bores were originally constructed to secure deep water through confined aquifers. However, in some situations On-Site Effluent Treatment (OSET) had been built around these due to the development in the area. Council had to prove that the risks for Council had been managed, including effluent treatment.
- The 5m exclusion zone around bores was in place to protect bore heads, where the structures were in place, to keep stock away and ensure the mechanical structures coming out of the ground that intersected the aquifers were not compromised. Currently, there was discussion in the Drinking Water Standards about bore heads being above ground or below ground, but that was another factor.
- The wider issue was that aquifers were huge, they could be over thousands of hectares, and there were influences by all users of that greater parcel of land. This question had been put to the BOP Regional Council, through the Territorial Authorities' meeting with them. That council was considering the Source Water Risk Management Plans. Council did not have the jurisdiction, or the ability to manage what every individual owner of land did over the greater area. The dilemma was how activities happening on all those parcels of land, including forestry, could be managed to protect that water source. There was no finite answer at this time.

- Council's bores were hundreds of metres deep, and had gone through secure layers, (that were not fractured), in the ground. The water took time to get down there and much of it was over 100 years old. By the time it was down there it was well filtered out.
 - The 5m exclusion zone worked for Council, in the sense that it could build mechanically, and by civil structures, to protect the bore heads from where water was taken. What had been learned over time, was that when Council bought land around bores, a larger amount of land than the 5m bore zone was now purchased, because of the whole-of-life operational requirements of bore heads.
 - A 10-30m restriction of activities around bores would be more successful and beneficial than 5m. However, when considering bores around the country, there were many situations where this could not be achieved because of land boundaries, and existing infrastructure or land development. Council's feedback had asked for consistency, but had also made it clear that there were reasons why greater than 5m may not be practical, in some cases.
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RESOLUTION PP22-3.2

Moved: Cr M Murray-Benge

Seconded: Cr A Henry

That the Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management's report, titled 'Western Bay of Plenty District Council's Feedback to Proposed Changes to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water) Regulations 2007', dated 5 April 2022, be received, and the information noted.

CARRIED

10 INFORMATION FOR RECEIPT

Nil.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.47am.

Confirmed as a true and correct record by Council on 12 May 2022.