



Submission Form

Submission Number
Office use only

003

Send your submission to reach us by 4.00 pm on Thursday, 12 April 2018

Post: The Chief Executive Bay of Plenty Regional Council PO Box 364 Whakatāne 3158	or Fax: 0800 884 882	or email: air@boprc.govt.nz
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Submitter Name: Gary Venton Bai and Janet Anne Bai

This is a submission on Proposed Plan Change 13 (Air Quality) to the Regional Natural Resources Plan

~~I could/could not~~ gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. *[Delete as required.]*

- (a) ~~I am/am not~~ directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that adversely affects the environment, and
- (b) ~~My submission does/does not~~ relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.
[Delete the entire paragraph if you could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.]

2 The details of my submission are in the attached table.

3 I wish/do not wish to be heard in support of my submission. *[Delete as required]*

4 ~~If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.~~ *[Delete if you would not consider presenting a joint case.]*

8/03/2018

Date

[Signature of person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission.]
[NOTE: A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means.]

Address for Service of Submitter: 18 Rewarewa Street, Owkata, Rotorua, 3010

Telephone: 07-3454835

Daytime:

After Hours:

Email: fender@xtra.co.nz

Fax:

Gary Bai or Janet Bai

Contact person: [Name and Designation if applicable]

SUBMISSION POINTS:

Page No	Reference (e.g. Policy, Rule, Method or Objective number)	Support/Oppose	Decision Sought Say what changes to the plan you would like	Give Reasons
67	AQ - O1	Support	Banning all recreational open fires and/or rubbish fires in Urban areas	Please refer to Appendix 1.
69	Option 4	Support	As above	

To: The Chief Executive
Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Appendix 1

We are a retired couple living in an urban residential area. We enjoy outdoor living and gardening and have developed our property accordingly.

However, we have an inconsiderate neighbour, who, for whatever reason, every week lights a rubbish fire, burning all manner of rubbish.

This results in an unpleasant odour, with smoke pollution and ash falling onto us and neighbouring properties. It means we have had to close our doors and windows and stay inside until the fire has finished. As you can imagine during the heat of the summer months, this is very uncomfortable.

We only discovered recently that we could lodge a complaint with the Air Pollution Hotline, have recently done so. This is when we were informed of this upcoming submission.

We were also told that another complaint had been made by another property owner and that an Officer was sent to inspect, apparently reporting that the fire complied with current regulations.

We find this hard to believe, when your own website states, and I quote:

"Any fire should be at least 50m from any road other than a highway and 100m from any highway or dwelling house on an adjoining property or National Park boundary."

I attach copies of the relevant pages from your website.

Including our property, there are at least 4 other dwellings well within 100m of this fire so I fail to see how this can comply.

In the meantime we will keep lodging complaints every time this fire affects our property.

In closing, I would like to point out that, open fires are not allowed in dwellings and log burners have to comply too an emission standard, but an outside open fire can pollute the air at will. There seems to be a contradiction in standards.

Yours sincerely

Gary and Janet Bai



Air Pollution

Discharging contaminants into the air affects air quality in the Bay of Plenty. Contaminants are discharged into air both from natural sources and as a result of human activity.

Natural sources of contaminants into air include volcanoes, other areas of geothermal activity, pollen, wind-blown dust, sea spray and organic breakdown.

Check out full details below on causes of air pollution from human activity:

- Dust over summer 2017/18
- Open Burnings
- Vehicle Emissions
- Reducing Emissions
- Agrichemical Spraydrift
- Air - the homepage for Council information on Air
- Asbestos

Contact the pollution hotline if you have any problems with **air pollution** - **0800 884 883**.

Open Burnings

Practices to prevent excessive smoke

- Burn only dry, seasoned material. Increased moisture content affects the heat of combustion and increases the likelihood of smoke. Allow two days fine weather before burning.
- Don't light fires in wind speeds greater than 10 knots - Beaufort scale 3 (leaves and the smallest twigs move in the wind). The ash produced on the fire is more likely to be blown about and the discharges will travel further in high wind conditions.
- Where possible, stack material to be burned to allow plenty of airflow into the base of the fire to aid efficient burning.
- Don't light fires when there is likelihood of an inversion layer, for instance when the air is cool and still such as in the evening or early in the morning. Dispersion of smoke is restricted when inversion conditions exist. The smoke will tend to hang about and not rise.
- Any fire should be at least 50m from any road other than a highway and 100m from any highway or dwelling house on an adjoining property or National Park boundary.

Always check with your local district council to ensure fire bans or fire restrictions are not in place. For more information you can also request a copy of the [Smoke Sense](#) brochure from Bay of Plenty Regional Council.