



Resource Management Act 1991

PROPOSED UPGRADE OF THE ROTORUA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT INCLUDING NEW LAND CONTACT BED AND DISCHARGE TO LAKE ROTORUA

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Rotorua Lakes Council have received an application from the Rotorua Lakes Council (the applicant) for a suite of resource consents associated with the upgrade of the existing Rotorua Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the discharge of treated wastewater to the Te Arikioa channel of Lake Rotorua at Puarenga Bay (Sulphur Bay).

Nature of Application

This resource consent application covers the works involved with upgrading the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the construction of a new land contact bed and discharge channel, in addition to the ongoing discharge of treated wastewater to the Te Arikioa channel of Lake Rotorua. Other associated consents to allow for the reuse of treated wastewater, the discharge of nutrients to the lake and contaminants (primarily odour) to the air from the Wastewater Treatment Plant are also sought.

Consents applied for:

Bay of Plenty Regional Council application number RM18-0508:

1. For the discharge of treated wastewater to land in a manner that it may enter an unnamed tributary (Te Arikioa thermal channel) of Lake Rotorua.
2. For the proposed discharge of treated wastewater to land via reuse.
3. For the increase in the discharge of nitrogen or phosphorus from a point source to land where contaminants may enter surface water.
4. For the discharge of contaminants (primarily odour) to air from the Rotorua Wastewater Treatment Plant.
5. For the discharge of sediment to water through the widening and minor deepening of Te Arikioa thermal channel.
6. For temporary damming and diversion of geothermal waters potentially required for the widening and deepening of the Te Arikioa thermal channel.
7. Earthworks associated with the construction of the bunds and widening and deepening of the Te Arikioa thermal channel.
8. For excavation and disturbance of a stream and lake associated with the widening and deepening of Te Arikioa thermal channel and construction of bunds adjacent the Puarenga Stream.
9. For vegetation removal associated with the construction of the new section of the Te Arikioa thermal channel, and widening of the existing Te Arikioa thermal channel.
10. For the interference with geothermal sinter and natural geothermal outflow required for the deepening and widening of the Te Arikioa thermal channel and the construction of a bund adjacent to the Puarenga Stream.

Rotorua Lakes Council application number RC16354:

1. For the disturbance of potentially contaminated soils (consents required under both Rotorua District Plan and National Environmental Standards for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health).
2. For the deepening and widening of the Te Arikioa thermal channel and the construction of bunds adjacent to the Puarenga Stream, being within an Outstanding Natural Feature or Landscape.
3. For the disturbance or removal of indigenous vegetation for the construction of a new discharge channel and the widening of the Te Arikioa thermal channel.
4. For new infrastructure located within esplanade reserves and strips and requiring earthworks or removal of indigenous vegetation within riparian margins.
5. For new infrastructure above ground, being a discharge channel and bunds adjacent to the Puarenga Stream used for the drainage of treated wastewater.

Viewing the Application

Electronic copies of the application documents, including the assessment of environmental effects, can be viewed on the Bay of Plenty Regional Council website (www.boprc.govt.nz/consentnotifications). Hard copies of the resource consent application can be inspected at the following locations:

- Rotorua Library – 1127 Haupapa Street, Rotorua
- Rotorua Lakes Council – 1061 Haupapa Street, Rotorua
- Bay of Plenty Regional Council – 1125 Arawa Street, Rotorua

If you have any questions about the application or submission process, please contact the Regulatory Coordination Team on 0800 884 880 by email to RegulatoryAdmin@boprc.govt.nz.

Submissions

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council will be the lead consent authority and will manage the collection and acknowledgement of submissions for both the regional and district council applications.

A submission is a written statement of support or opposition to a resource consent application. Any person may make a submission on either or both of the regional and district applications by sending a written submission to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council at PO Box 364, Whakatāne 3158, telephone 0800 884 880 or email RegulatoryAdmin@boprc.govt.nz, no later than **5.00 p.m. on Monday, 26th November 2018**.

The submission must be dated, signed by you and include:

- 1 Your name, postal address and telephone number.
- 2 Whether your submission relates to consents sought from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council or Rotorua Lakes Council.
- 3 Whether you support or oppose the application along with your comments/reasons.
- 4 The decision you wish the Environment Court to make.
- 5 Whether you wish to be heard in support of your submission.

A template for making a submission can be downloaded from www.boprc.govt.nz/consentnotifications

A copy of your submission must also be sent to the applicant as soon as reasonably practicable after you have sent your submission to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. The contact details for the applicant are: email to sarah.pauli@rotorualc.nz or hard copy to Rotorua Lakes Council, Private Bag 3029, Rotorua Mail Centre, Rotorua 3046, New Zealand – Attention Greg Manzano.

Site visit

The applicant can arrange a site visit for any submitter interested in viewing the proposal including the Wastewater Treatment Plant, proposed Land Contact Bed and Discharge Channel. If you are interested in joining a site visit, please contact Sarah Pauli at sarah.pauli@rotorualc.nz or 07 351 7830 by **19th October 2018** to register your interest. A day and time for a site visit will then be scheduled.

Direct referral to Environment Court

The applicant has requested the direct referral of the application to the Environment Court. This means that after the submission period, the application is passed onto the Environment Court to be heard and decided, bypassing the usual council hearing and decision making process.

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Rotorua Lakes Council (as consent authorities) have accepted the applicant's request for direct referral and the resource consent applications will now be determined by the Environment Court. As a submitter you will be given the opportunity by the Court to be heard in support of your submission. Further information on the direct referral process is available at the Ministry for Environment website: <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/> - key words 'direct referral'.

Dated this 29th September 2018

Fiona McTavish
**Chief Executive – Bay of Plenty
Regional Council**

G Williams
**Chief Executive – Rotorua Lakes
Council**

