



**BAY OF PLENTY
REGIONAL COUNCIL
TOI MOANA**

Submission Form

Send your submission to reach us by 4.00 pm on Wednesday, 18 April 2018

Submission Number
Office use only

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Post: The Chief Executive Bay of Plenty Regional Council PO Box 364 Whakatane 3158	or Fax: 0800 884 882	or email: air@boprc.govt.nz
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Submitter Name: Mc Alpines Rotorua Limited (Mc Alpines)

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

~~I cannot~~ 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.]

 on behalf of McAlpines
 [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.]

12 April 18
 Date

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Submission Points:

Page No	Reference	Support/ Oppose	Decision sought	Reasons
2	AQ P4	Conditional support	<p>McAlpines conditionally supports the matters that plan users must have particular regard to, but seeks inclusion of an additional matter for consideration where there is an existing authorised discharge as follows:</p> <p><i>(h) For the Rotorua airshed, the scale of an activity may be increased provided that there is no net increase in the rate of particulate matter discharges, consistent with Regulation 17 of the NESAQ.</i></p>	<p>McAlpines seeks to maintain flexibility to enable the replacement of an existing boiler with a similar type of boiler of the same size and burning the same fuel, eg. wood residues: shavings and/or sawdust with coal as a back-up. McAlpines acknowledges that any new boiler would be designed to operate with no increase in particulate matter discharges.</p> <p>McAlpines also needs flexibility to be able to install a larger boiler operating on wood residues, ie shavings and/or sawdust with coal as a back-up should their future business plans require it. The future availability of gas as a boiler fuel may also be in doubt after 10 years, following the recent government decision to cease oil and gas exploration.</p> <p>McAlpines seeks the inclusion of an additional matter for consideration in AQ P4 to provide clarity and acknowledgement in the matters to consider on the ability of an existing consent holder to seek to continue to discharge particulate matter as per an existing authorisation, provided that the overall rate of discharge does not increase above the current authorisation. As per the NESAQ Regulation 17, the scale of an activity may be increased provided that the discharge rate is the same or less. This could be achieved in a polluted airshed by additional controls on an expanded plant, or through the NESAQ offset provisions.</p>

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				<p>McAlpines have been proactive in reducing particulate emissions in the Rotorua airshed. This has included the installation in 2011 of a dynamic wet scrubber which has significantly reduced particulate emissions from two on-site boilers. The scrubber installation has reduced particulate emissions from the boiler stack by approx. 15-20 tonnes pa.</p> <p>Additional to this, semi-automated boiler controls have been installed to reduce operational variations and improve combustion in the two boilers.</p> <p>A totally enclosed baghouse and shavings transfer system was also installed in 2011 to contain all shavings and dust generated by a timber planer.</p> <p>Two old planers which used open cyclones to separate shavings and transport air were decommissioned in 2012. There are now no dust or shavings emissions from the new shavings handling system with the dry shavings being used as a fuel in one of the boilers rather than burning coal. This has the added benefit of much lower greenhouse gas emissions from burning a renewable wood based resource rather than coal.</p>
5	AQ R2	Conditional support		<p>McAlpines seeks that the ability to expand operational scale be made explicit in the matters to consider to make it clear that there is some protection for existing users in a polluted airshed.</p> <p>The amendment sought would give McAlpines, and similar resource users, more certainty that they can invest and maintain their operations and continue contributing to the economic wellbeing of the Region, while continuing to ensure that environmental effects on the environment are acceptable.</p>
7	AQ10	Oppose	Amend AQ R10 (a) to exclude capturing burning of anti-sapstain treated wood as a	<p>McAlpines does not currently burn anti-sapstain treated wood in its boilers but may wish to do so in the future. McAlpines is aware of other sites in New Zealand</p>
				<p>McAlpines supports the discretionary activity status applying under AQ R2 for fuel burning equipment not complying with the permitted activity Rules under AQ R18. This support is provided on the basis that consideration is given to existing authorised rates of particulate matter discharge as per the amendment sought to AQ P4.</p>

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			<p>non-complying activity, either by including the definition of treated timber as requested in the submission point below (Definition of Terms: pages 17 to 21); or otherwise by making the burning of anti-sapstain treated wood discretionary.</p> <p>Also amend AQ R10 (g) to specifically exclude coal and wood from the non-complying list as follows:</p> <p>(g) material that may contain heavy metals including but not limited to lead, zinc, arsenic, cadmium, copper, mercury, thorium <i>(excluding fuels such as coal and wood)</i></p>	<p>that are able to safely burn a component of anti-sapstain treated wood as authorised by a resource consent for air discharges obtained as a discretionary activity. McAlpines is of the view that a non-complying status for this activity is overly restrictive and sends the wrong message. Anti-sapstain treated wood can safely be burnt to make beneficial use of wood waste that would otherwise need to be disposed of via another means and at significant cost.</p> <p>McAlpines also notes that sub-part (g) of AQ R10 essentially encompasses fuel combustion as a non-complying activity, which is perhaps an un-intended consequence of the rule drafting. For example, coal contains trace heavy metals including cadmium, copper, mercury and lead, as does wood to a lesser extent. Capturing combustion of these fuel materials as a non-complying activity would seem at odds with the provision of the activity as permitted and discretionary under other rules, and that rule AQ R10 as drafted would appear to take precedence over the other provisions.</p>
13	Rule AQ R18 (2)(d)	Conditional Support	<p>Amend AQR18(2)(d)(i) as follows:</p> <p>(i) all emission stacks constructed after December 2003 rise at least 14.9 metres above ground level</p>	<p>McAlpines conditionally supports the permitted activity status for fuel burning equipment up to 5 MW gross heat energy burning untreated wood (or coal) installed before 27 February 2018 (subject to the submission point below reference pages 17-21). This is because the permitted activity rule reflects the existing investment made by industry and provides for their continued operation, while ensuring that effects on the environment are acceptable, subject to adding the definitions for treated wood and untreated wood.</p> <p>AQR18(2)(d) requires that for a discharge to be a permitted activity under this rule, under (i) all emission stack heights constructed after December 2003 rise at least 15 metres above ground level and at least 3 metres above the highest ridge line on the roof or any building within 20 metres.</p>
13	AQ R18(2)(d)(i)	Conditional Support	<p>Amend AQR18(2)(d)(i) as follows:</p> <p>(i) all emission stacks constructed after December 2003 rise at least 14.9 metres above ground level</p>	<p>The McAlpines site is zoned Industrial 1 under the Rotorua District Plan where a maximum height limit of 15 metres applies. McAlpines stack height is currently 14.9 metres in order to comply with District Plan requirements. The requirement under AQ R18(2)(d)(i) for the stack height to be at least 15 metres is in conflict with the District Plan requirements for the Industrial 1 zone.</p>

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17-21	Definition of Terms	Conditional Support	<p>Include definitions for the following:</p> <p>Treated Timber: means timber treated with preservatives, including boron compounds (except 2-thiocyanomethylthiobenzothiazole (TCMTB) compounds), copper chromium arsenic (CCA), or creosote, but not including timber treated only with anti-sapstain compounds.</p> <p>Untreated Wood: means any wood material or product, including sawdust, which is not treated with copper chromium arsenic (CCA) (or "tanalised"), or with any organochlorine preservative <i>and can include timber treated only with anti-sapstain compounds.</i></p>	<p>The inclusion of a definition of Treated Timber and Untreated Wood, in order to provide clarity over what is meant by these terms. McAlpines considers that the inclusion of these definitions will provide clarity regarding the type of timber that can be burnt in fuel burning equipment (boilers). McAlpines currently burns shavings and sawdust which are not treated with anti-sapstain compounds but wishes to retain the ability in the future to burn untreated wood shavings which may contain anti-sapstain compounds without triggering the non-complying rule AQ R10 Burning specified material. The insertion of definitions for treated timber and untreated wood provides greater certainty as to the type of wood that can be burnt in fuel burning equipment under AQ R18.</p>
				<p>To comply with this Rule would require McAlpines to obtain a land use consent from Rotorua Lakes Council for a height infringement. To address this inconsistency, it is requested that the minimum stack height in this rule be amended to 14.9 metres above ground level.</p>