

# Environmental Policy of the Wellington Regional Council Water Group

The Water Group of the Wellington Regional Council takes water from surface and artesian sources, treats it using chemical and physical processes, and distributes it to Lower Hutt, Porirua, Upper Hutt and Wellington. This policy, and the ISO 14001 certified Environmental Management System supporting it, takes account of the environmental impacts of Water Group activities, and the environmental results the community and the Council have agreed on.

The Water Group is committed to sustainable environmental management, consistent with the production of water and the provision of laboratory services at competitive rates. In demonstrating this commitment The Water Group undertakes to:

- Comply with all relevant laws and any Standards to which the Wellington Regional Council subscribes.
- Evaluate the environmental effects and risks of all activities, and adopt all reasonable means, including consideration of alternatives, to avoid, remedy or mitigate these effects.
- Prevent pollution of the environment. Wastes will be treated and disposed of in an environmentally safe manner. Where practicable, waste will be reduced through the use of alternative processes, reuse, recycling or conversion to by-products.
- Recognise and operate within the natural limits of renewable resources, particularly water, and conserve non-renewable resources such as fuels, energy and materials.
- Aim for no net loss of significant habitats or ecosystems.
- Consider the environmental implications of business decisions.
- Ensure that all staff members are aware of the importance of the environmental performance of The Water Group and of the environmental implications of the activities they undertake.
- Specify the environmental requirements to be met by third parties engaged by The Water Group.
- Where practicable, include consideration of environmental performance in the selection of contractors and suppliers.
- Strive to continuously improve the environmental performance of The Water Group.
- Make this environmental policy available to the public.
- Review this policy and the supporting system regularly.
- Report annually on the environmental performance of The Water Group.

.....  
Divisional Manager, Utility Services

.....  
Date