



Report 10.23
Date 18 March 2010
File ENV/01/08/04

Committee Regulatory Committee
Authors Tracey Grant, Team Leader, Environmental
Regulation
Jeremy Rusbatch, Team Leader, Environmental
Regulation

Decisions on non-notified resource consent applications

1. Purpose

To report on decisions made under delegated authority on non-notified resource consent applications.

2. Communication

For full details of the non notified consents granted please go to the following link: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/Decisions/>

3. Non-notified resource consents

A total of 130 resource consents were received between 1 November 2009 and 19 February 2010. During this period, decisions were released on 181 consents with a median processing time of 19 days.

This compares with 197 consents received and 195 decisions released for the same period last year.

The decisions released for this period are summarised in the table below.

	Coastal permit	Discharge permit	Land use consent	Water permit
CDC			6	1
HCC		1	18	3
KCDC		8	16	3
MDC		5	20	6
PCC	4	2	4	

	Coastal permit	Discharge permit	Land use consent	Water permit
SWDC		1	7	50
UHCC		1	5	
WCC	10	3	6	1
Whole region				
Total	14	21	82	64

In addition, eight resource consent applications were returned to the applicant as incomplete (section 88 of the Resource Management Act 1991) for this period. This is a significant increase and reflects the recent amendments to the Resource Management Act.

3.1 Consent trends and significant non-notified resource consents

The consent numbers processed during this time period have increased from the beginning of the compliance year, and are just below the numbers for the same period last year.

A range of consents have been processed during this time period on a non-notified basis. These include the following:

Groundwater takes in the Riverside and Lower Valley groundwater zones - All consents to take groundwater in the Riverside and Lower Valley groundwater zones expired in 2009. When replacement applications were lodged, we gained the agreement of applicants to extend processing times so that their applications could be processed concurrently when all applications had been received. This gave us more flexibility to manage the assessment process which meant we could evaluate the cumulative effects of all takes on the wider groundwater zone. It also enabled for more cost effective consent processing for all applicants. In total 38 groundwater take consents were processed in these two groundwater zones during the reporting period.

Trinity Schools Trust Board (TSTB) discharge to the Ruamahanga River - Rathkeale College (part of TSTB) applied for a replacement short term (3 year) consent to continue discharging wastewater from their facility to a tributary of the Ruamahanga River. The school has been looking at alternative discharge options including piping wastewater to the Masterton District Council wastewater network. Further time is required to finalise a long term upgrade for the wastewater system.

Riversdale Beach wastewater scheme Stage 2 consents - Masterton District Council applied for two suites of consents associated with the development of a community wastewater scheme at Riversdale Beach. The stage 1 consents which related to discharges to land and air and infrastructure required to pipe wastewater to the discharge site (on terraces inland from Riversdale Beach) were processed on a limited notified basis. The stage 2 consents related to consents associated with construction of the scheme within the Riversdale

Beach township and were processed on a non-notified basis. Both suites of consents were approved in December 2009.

Wingnut Films Ltd - A series of consents were approved for Wingnut Films Ltd for development of a property north-east of Masterton. The applicant has installed a large recreational lake and required a number of consents for bridges, culverts, diversions, and discharges during the construction process. Whilst the environmental effects of the activities were minor, the scale of the project made consent processing an interesting challenge!

4. Recommendation

That the Committee:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***

Report prepared by:

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Tracey Grant
Team Leader, Environmental
Regulation

Jeremy Rusbatch
Team Leader, Environmental
Regulation

Al Cross
Manager, Environmental
Regulation

Report approved by:

Nigel Corry
General Manager,
Environment Management
Group