



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL

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21 April 2016

Freshwater Consultation 2016
Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
WELLINGTON 6143

Dear Sir/Madam

NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICER SUBMISSION TO THE FRESHWATER REFORMS 2016

This submission is made by Council officers. We thank the Ministry for the Environment for the opportunity to submit on the Freshwater Reforms 2016. Our interest relates to the Council's role as a territorial authority in:

- Water supply services to defined urban and rural water supply areas including the development, operation and maintenance of groundwater bores, and river intakes.
- Stormwater drainage including collection, management and disposal of stormwater run-off from around 6,600ha of urban area.
- Wastewater treatment services providing a group of activities which collects, treats and disposes of domestic and industrial wastewater from urban areas.

We would therefore like to ensure that the following important themes are provided due consideration as the Freshwater Reforms are progressed:

- The potential impact of policies on the ability of local authorities to take, treat and dispose of water for the needs of their communities.
- The potential of additional consent and compliance cost impacts of policies (e.g. staff time, compliance monitoring such as metering raw water takes, the cost of additional infrastructure and/or consenting costs).
- Strive for more nationally consistent water take and water disposal consent conditions.
- Ensuring that any policy signalling the diversion of water to its highest economic use does not threaten a local authority's ability to obtain water for public water supplies including reasonable future supplies, e.g. how will local authorities obligation to supply water be valued for comparison with other economic uses?

We would also like to record its support of the submission made on this proposal by Local Government NZ (LGNZ).

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]

Mark Hall

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