

Report to the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee
from Steve Blakemore, Manager, Planning and Resources

Remittance of Resource Management Charges

1. Purpose

To seek Committee approval for remittance of a portion of South Wairarapa District Council's charges for monitoring Greytown sewage discharge during 1997/98.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's policy for Resource Management Charging was established in February 1997 and is to be reviewed before the 2000/01 financial year. The policy was approved following a wide public consultation process.
- 2.2 South Wairarapa District Council has three consents for the discharge of treated sewage for Greytown, Martinborough and Featherston. Whilst South Wairarapa accept that monthly discharge monitoring is required to provide data for new consent applications for each of these sites, they maintain that there were adequate monthly records for Greytown, thus its frequency of monitoring could have been reduced.
- 2.3 There have been some misunderstandings by South Wairarapa District Council. In order to resolve the situation, an agreement has been negotiated that, if a remittance of \$5153.40 was made for the 1997/98 year, based on quarterly rather than monthly monitoring at Greytown, all subsequent annual charges will be paid in full by the District Council for monthly monitoring at all three sites.
- 2.4 The current annual resource management charges for South Wairarapa District Council's three discharges are \$24,471.
- 2.5 The Committee has the delegated authority to remit charges under Section 36(5) of the Resource Management Act 1991, for amounts greater than \$1000.

3. Discussion

- 3.1 It has not been possible to produce clear documentation in relation to South Wairarapa's claim that Greytown should have reverted to quarterly monitoring. It can be accepted however, that there may have been a misunderstanding regarding the frequency of monitoring.
- 3.2 It is important that new consents are issued for these three important discharges. South Wairarapa District Council accepts that monthly monitoring will continue at each site until new consent conditions take over.
The Greytown consent has been notified and applications are awaited for the Martinborough and Featherston discharges.
- 3.3 This remittance can be made without breaching the policy as it is based on the frequency of individual monitoring, not the policy itself.

4. Recommendation

That the Committee approves a remittance of \$5153.40 of the South Wairarapa District Council's 1997/98 Resource Management Charges related to the frequency of monitoring of the Greytown treated sewage discharge consent.

Report prepared by:

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