



Report **06.437**
Date 31 August 2006
File ENV/10/08/01

Committee **Dangerous Dams Subcommittee**
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Management Division**

Consideration and recommendations on proposed Dangerous Dam Policy

1. Purpose

To provide the Dangerous Dams Subcommittee with recommended changes to the proposed Dangerous Dams Policy as a result of submissions received.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

Under the provisions of the Building Act 2004 (the Act) Greater Wellington must adopt a policy on Dangerous Dams. The policy must state:

- the approach the regional authority will take in performing its functions;
- the regional authority's priorities in performing those functions; and
- how the policy will apply to heritage dams.

Council approved a proposed Dangerous Dam Policy for public consultation in accordance with section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 at its meeting on 20 July 2006. The proposed policy was publicly notified on 22 July 2006 and copies of the policy were sent to individual dam owners.

In formulating the proposed Dangerous Dam policy, Regional Councils across the country worked collectively to develop a template policy. To this extent, representatives of the Councils' meet with a number of national organisations to consult on the policy. Council representatives met with the Historic Places Trust, Federated Farmers, VegFed and New Zealand Society on Large Dams.

4. **Comment**

Greater Wellington received four submissions on the Proposed Dangerous Dam Policy. A number of the submissions raised issues regarding the definition of a dam and the definition of a dangerous dam. These definitions are beyond the scope of the Dangerous Dam policy as they are defined by the Act and regulations.

Attachment 1 sets out each point made in the submissions, makes a recommendation as to whether any amendment to the policy is required, and provides a reason for the recommendation.

Attachment 2 is a copy of the original proposed Dangerous Dam Policy.

The subcommittee must consider whether they agree with each recommended amendment to the policy. The subcommittee will decide on the final policy to recommend to Council.

5. **Communication**

At this stage there is no communication requirement. Once Council has approved the final Dangerous Dam Policy, letters will be sent to the submitters outlining the reasons for any amendments. All dam owners will be provided with a copy of the final policy once approved.

6. **Recommendations**

That the Committee:

1. ***Receives** the report.*
2. ***Notes** the content of the report.*
3. ***Approves** the recommended changes outlined in Appendix One*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Attachment 1: Proposed recommendations to submissions on the Proposed Dangerous Dam Policy

Attachment 2: Proposed Dangerous Dams Policy 2006