



AUT.003775.01.03
AUT.003775.02.02
AUT.003775.03.02

Resource Consent

Pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991, the Northland Regional Council (hereinafter called "the Council") does hereby grant a Resource Consent to:

FAR NORTH DISTRICT COUNCIL, PRIVATE BAG 752, KAIKOHE 0440

To undertake the following activities associated with the operation of the Ahipara wastewater treatment plant:

- AUT.003775.01.03** To discharge treated wastewater to an unnamed tributary of the Wairoa Stream on Part Lot 25 SO 62853 Blk V Ahipara SD, at or about location co-ordinates 1616086E 6110696N.
- AUT.003775.02.02** To discharge contaminants (primarily odour) to air from an aerated oxidation pond located on Part Sec 153 SO 61895 Blk V Ahipara SD, at or about location co-ordinates 1614547E 6108300N, and an artificial wetland located on Part Lot 25 SO 62853 Blk V Ahipara SD, at or about location co-ordinates 1616132E 6110732N.
- AUT.003775.03.02** To discharge contaminants to ground via seepage from the base of an aerated oxidation pond located on Part Sec 153 SO 61895 Blk V Ahipara SD, at or about location co-ordinates 1614547E 6108300N and from the base of an artificial wetland located on Part Lot 25 SO 62853 Blk V Ahipara SD, at or about location co-ordinates 1616132E 6110732N.

Note: All location co-ordinates refer to Geodetic Datum 2000, New Zealand Transverse Mercator Projection.

Subject to the following conditions:

AUT.003775.01.03 & AUT.003775.03.02 – Discharges to Water and to Land

- 1 The volume of wastewater discharged into the aerated treatment pond shall not exceed 400 cubic metres per day, based on the "rolling" 30 day average dry weather discharge volume.

For the purposes of this consent, a "dry weather discharge" day is any day on which there is less than 1 millimetre of rainfall that occurs after three consecutive days either without rainfall or with rainfall of less than 1 millimetre. The rainfall recorder site used to determine dry weather days shall be selected in consultation with the Northland Regional Council.

- 2 The volume of leachate discharged to the aerated oxidation pond from the Ahipara Landfill shall not exceed 10 cubic metres per day.
- 3 The Consent Holder shall install and maintain a meter that has an accuracy of $\pm 5\%$ to measure the volume of wastewater discharged into the aerated treatment pond. In addition, prior to any leachate from the Ahipara Landfill being discharged to the aerated treatment pond, the Consent Holder shall install and maintain a meter that has an accuracy of $\pm 5\%$ to measure the volume of leachate discharged to the aerated oxidation pond.
- 4 The Consent Holder shall test the electronics of the meters required by Condition 3, at least annually to ensure that the specified accuracy is maintained. Written verification from a suitably qualified person that the meters have been tested or calibrated during the previous 12 month period shall be forwarded to the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager by 1 May each year.
- 5 The Consent Holder shall notify the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager in writing of the date that leachate from the Ahipara Landfill is to be discharged to the aerated treatment pond for the first time, at least one month beforehand.
- 6 Using the meters required by Condition 3, the Consent Holder shall keep written records of the daily volume of the treated wastewater and leachate discharged from the Ahipara Landfill discharged into the aerated treatment. A copy of these records shall be forwarded to the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager monthly, and also immediately upon written request by that manager.
- 7 The Consent Holder shall maintain a stock proof fence around the perimeter of the artificial wetland and the adjacent natural marsh. The extent of the fence around the natural marsh area shall be generally in accordance with that shown on NRC Plan 3431 (**attached**). In addition, no stock shall be allowed access to these areas.
- 8 The Consent Holder shall monitor the exercise of these consents in accordance with the Monitoring Programme contained within Schedule 1 (**attached**). Changes may be made to Schedule 1 with the written approval of the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager.
- 9 The results of monitoring required to be undertaken in accordance with Condition 8 shall be forwarded to the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager and Te Runanga O Te Rarawa within one month of each sampling visit.

10 The concentration of faecal coliforms in the discharge from the artificial wetland, as measured at NRC Sampling Site 100301 (shown on NRC Plan 3431, **attached**), shall not exceed the following:

- (a) A median concentration based on any 12 consecutive samples of 5,000 per 100 millilitres; and
- (b) A 90 percentile concentration based on any 12 consecutive samples of 25,000 per 100 millilitres.

The median and 90 percentile concentrations are "rolling" values. Compliance with this condition shall, as a minimum, be determined by the results of the monitoring undertaken in accordance with Schedule 1 (**attached**).

11 The Consent Holder shall advise the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager in writing within seven days of any recorded exceedance of the 90 percentile concentration limit required under Condition 10(b), the reasons for the exceedance and the steps to be undertaken by the Consent Holder to ensure ongoing compliance with Condition 10.

Advice Note: *If any single sample exceeds 25,000 faecal coliforms per 100 ml, the Consent Holder is expected to take all steps necessary to ensure compliance with Condition 10(b). Additional sampling may be required if this event does occur to allow confirmation of the treatment system performance.*

12 Prior to the date that leachate from the Ahipara Landfill is first discharged into the aerated treatment pond, the Consent Holder shall undertake an investigation to accurately ascertain the normal concentrations of the following metals in the discharge from the artificial wetland, as measured at NRC Sampling Site 100301:

- (a) Total arsenic
- (b) Total cadmium
- (c) Total chromium
- (d) Total copper
- (e) Total lead
- (f) Total zinc

The details of the investigation shall be provided to the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager for approval prior to commencement of the discharge of Ahipara landfill leachate into the treatment system.

13 Subject to Condition 14, for a period of four years from the date of first commencement of the discharge of leachate from the Ahipara Landfill into the aerated treatment pond, the Consent Holder shall monitor concentrations of heavy metals in the discharge from the artificial wetland in accordance with Schedule 1 (**attached**).

Within six months after the end of this period, the Consent Holder shall provide a report that has been prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person to the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager which provides:

- (a) an analysis of the monitoring results; and
- (b) a detailed assessment as to whether any elevations in heavy metal concentrations in the discharge from the artificial wetland have occurred that could be attributed to the introduction of landfill leachate.

If significant elevations are detected, the Northland Regional Council may, in accordance with Condition 31 of this consent review the conditions of these consents.

- 14 Following at least two years of sampling required by Condition 13, if the concentration of a metal is below the following limits over a total of 12 consecutive sampling events, the Consent Holder may cease sampling for that particular metal with the prior written approval of the Northland Regional Council:

Metal	Limit (g/m ³)
Arsenic	0.024
Cadmium	0.0002
Chromium	0.001
Copper	0.0014
Lead	0.0034
Zinc	0.008

- 15 The exercise of these consents shall not result in any of the following effects on the quality of the receiving waters, as measured at NRC Sampling Site 102101 (shown on NRC Plan 3431, **attached**):

- (a) The production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, floatable or suspended materials;
- (b) The water to be tainted so as to be unpalatable, nor contain toxic substances to the extent that they are unsuitable, for consumption by farm animals.

- 16 The Consent Holder shall provide and maintain safe and easy access to NRC Sampling Sites 100301 (Outlet of artificial wetland – at or about location co-ordinates 1616086E 6110696N) and 102101 (Outlet of natural marsh area – at or about location co-ordinates 1616005E 6110501N), both shown on NRC Plan 3431 (**attached**).

AUT.003775.02.02 – Discharges to Air

- 17 The Consent Holder's operations shall not give rise to any discharge of contaminants at or beyond the property boundary, which is deemed by a suitably trained and experienced Enforcement Officer of the Northland Regional Council to be noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable to such an extent that it has, or is likely to have, an adverse effect on the environment.

For the purposes of this condition, "property boundary" refers to the boundary of Part Sec 153 SO 61895 Blk V Ahipara SD (on which the aerated oxidation pond is located) and Part Lot 25 SO 62853 Blk V Ahipara SD (on which the artificial wetland is located).

- 18 The Consent Holder shall, for the purposes of adequately monitoring this consent as required under Section 35 of the Act, maintain records of any complaints relating to the discharge of contaminants to air received by the Consent Holder, as detailed below:
- (a) The name and address of the complainant (where provided);
 - (b) The date and time the complaint is received;
 - (c) The duration of the event that gave rise to the complaint;
 - (d) The location from which the complaint arose;
 - (e) The weather conditions prevailing at that time;
 - (f) Any events in the management and operation of any processes that may have given rise to the complaint; and
 - (g) Any actions taken by the Consent Holder, where possible, to minimise contaminant emissions.

The Consent Holder shall notify the Northland Regional Council as soon as is practicable of any complaint received. Records of the above shall be sent to the Northland Regional Council upon request.

General Conditions

- 19 The aerated treatment pond and artificial wetland shall be correctly operated and maintained in an effective and workmanlike manner at all times, including desludging as and when required and ensuring adequate planting of the artificial wetland with appropriate wetland plant species.
- 20 The Consent Holder shall maintain a written record of all servicing and maintenance carried out on the treatment and disposal system, and supply a copy of this record to the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager annually, and also immediately upon request by that manager.
- 21 As a minimum, the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment system shall be carried out in general accordance with the most recent version of the Management Plan for the system. The Management Plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (a) Specification of the design wastewater volume, dimensions, design loading and expected treatment performance of the aerated oxidation pond and artificial wetland.
 - (b) A schedule, including frequencies, of regular inspection, servicing, and maintenance items to be carried out on the treatment and disposal systems.
 - (c) Schedule for the maintenance of wetland plant species coverage within the artificial wetland, including weed control.

- (d) Where it is not practical to schedule maintenance activities, such as the desludging of the aerated oxidation pond and artificial wetland, a monitoring programme shall be provided to demonstrate that the design treatment capacity is maintained, and criteria shall be provided to trigger required maintenance. Particular attention shall be given to the method used for measuring the depth of wastewater and sludge in the oxidation pond and artificial wetland in which soft sludge accumulates.
 - (e) Contingency measures for unauthorised discharges.
- 22 Changes may be made at any time to the Management Plan in consultation with the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager. A copy of the amended Management Plan shall be provided to the Northland Regional Council within one month of it becoming operative and shall be deemed to be the most recent version for compliance purposes.
- 23 The Consent Holder shall prepare an Annual Review Report that shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (a) A summary of all activities required by the Management Plan; and
 - (b) A summary of the results of all monitoring required to be undertaken in accordance with Condition 8.
- 24 The Consent Holder shall establish, convene and provide reasonable administrative support for a Community Liaison Group. The Community Liaison Group shall consist of at least one representative from the following:
 - (a) the Ahipara community;
 - (b) Te Runanga O Te Rarawa;
 - (c) Te Iwi O Ngāi Takoto;
 - (d) the Ahipara Hapū Marae.

The role of the Community Liaison Group will be to discuss matters related to these consents including the results of monitoring required under Condition 8 and the Annual Report required under Condition 23.
- 25 The Consent Holder shall hold a meeting with the Community Liaison Group not less than once every year to discuss matters related to these consents. The meeting shall only be held if a representative(s) of the Community Liaison Group requests a meeting with the Consent Holder. If such a request is made, then the Consent Holder shall organise a meeting at a local venue for members of the Community Liaison Group to attend, and invite all other representatives of the Community Liaison Group. The meeting shall be held at a time convenient for the majority of the Community Liaison Group.
- 26 Within three months from the date of commencement of this resource consent, the Consent Holder shall consult with the parties comprising the Community Liaison Group (as set out in Condition 24) for the purpose of developing a Terms of Reference for the investigation required by Condition 27. The final Terms of Reference shall be finalised by the Consent Holder and shall incorporate, to the extent practicable, relevant matters raised by the Community Liaison Group.

- 27 Within six months from the commencement date of this consent, the Consent Holder shall engage an appropriately qualified and experienced wastewater design professional or engineer to investigate and report on the best practicable option to enable the disposal of treated wastewater from the Ahipara reticulated network to land. As a minimum, consideration of the best practicable option shall take into account the following:
- (a) The Terms of Reference developed in accordance with Condition 26;
 - (b) The social and cultural interests of those parties comprising the Community Liaison Group;
 - (c) The capital and operating costs of the system;
 - (d) The availability and suitability of land for wastewater disposal;
 - (e) The operational lifespan of the disposal system; and
 - (f) The receiving environment.
- 28 The Consent Holder shall provide the parties comprising the Community Liaison Group a draft report for their consideration and input within two years of the commencement date of this resource consent. Any input from the representatives of the parties comprising the Community Liaison Group that relate to those matters identified in Condition 27(a) to (f) above shall, where practical, be addressed in the report before a final version is released. A final version of the report shall be provided to the Northland Regional Council and representatives of the Community Liaison Group by 20 December 2015.
- 29 The Community Liaison Group may confirm in writing to the Consent Holder and the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager the group's preferred option from the report required by Condition 28. The Consent Holder shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, but not later than three years after receiving this confirmation, incorporate the preferred option into either a draft Long Term Plan or Annual Plan prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002.

This condition applies only in the event that:

- (a) The Community Liaison Group provides its preferred option in accordance with this condition; and
- (b) The Far North District Council decides to adopt an Annual Plan or a Long Term Plan that includes the preferred option put forward by the Community Liaison Group.

If additional authorisations are required under the Resource Management Act 1991 in order to undertake the development of the preferred option, the Consent Holder shall ensure that the necessary applications or notice of requirement are lodged with the relevant consent authority within 12 months of the date on which the Plan referred in Condition 29(b) is adopted.

Subject to the Consent Holder obtaining all necessary authorisations for the work, the Consent Holder shall ensure that the preferred option is commissioned as soon as is reasonably practicable.

30 The Consent Holder shall, for the purposes of adequately monitoring the consent as required under Section 35 of the Act, on becoming aware of any contaminant associated with the Consent Holder's operations escaping otherwise than in conformity with this consent:

- (a) Immediately take such action, or execute such work as may be necessary, to stop and/or contain such escape; and
- (b) Immediately notify the Northland Regional Council by telephone of an escape of contaminant; and
- (c) Take all reasonable steps to remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on the environment resulting from the escape; and
- (d) Report to the Northland Regional Council's Monitoring Manager in writing within one week on the cause of the escape of the contaminant and the steps taken or being taken to effectively control or prevent such escape.

With regard to telephone notification during the Northland Regional Council's opening hours, the Northland Regional Council's assigned monitoring officer for these consents shall be contacted. If that person cannot be spoken to directly, or it is outside of the Northland Regional Council's opening hours, then the Environmental Emergency Hotline shall be contacted.

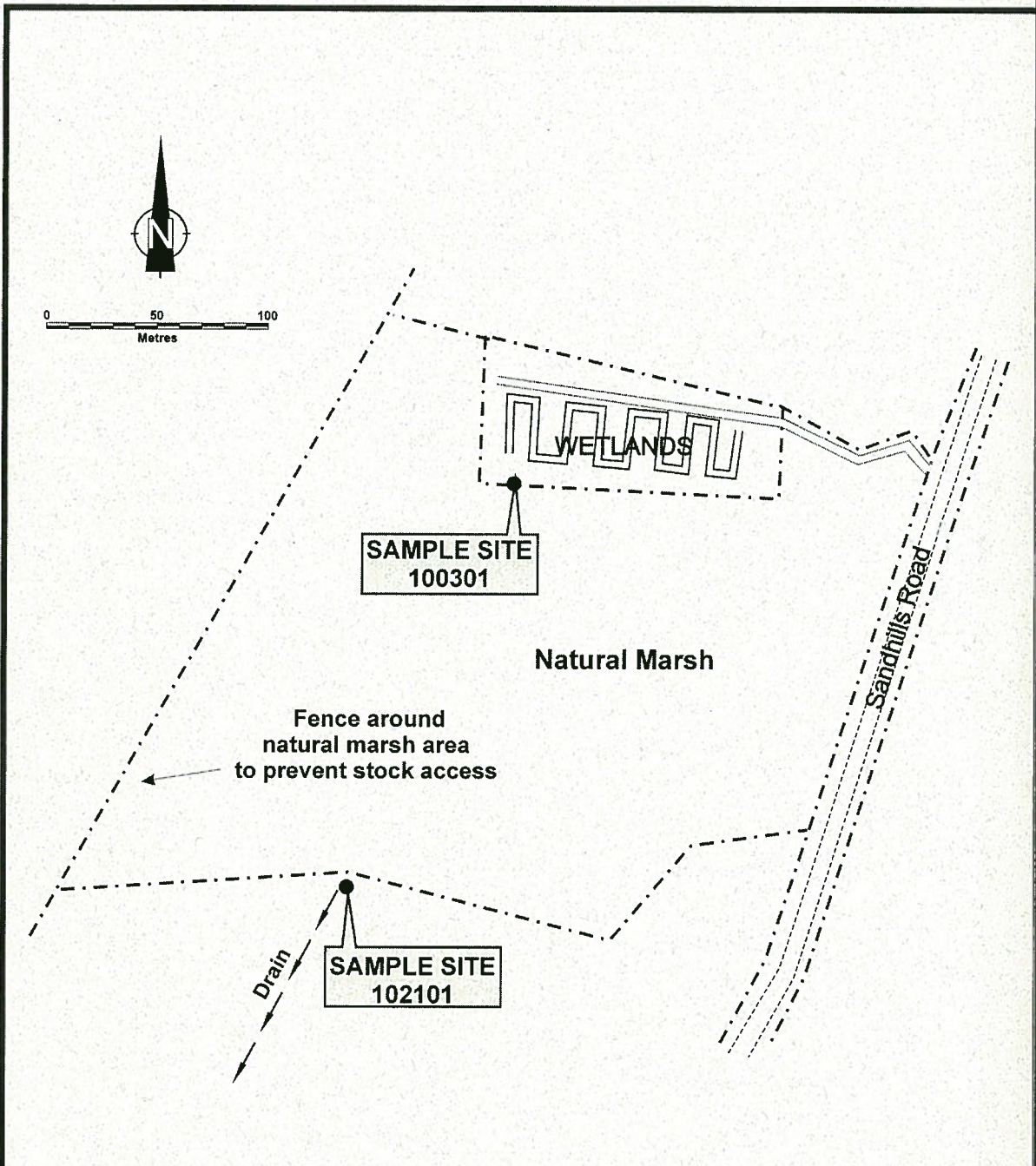
31 The Northland Regional Council may, in accordance with Section 128 of the Resource Management Act 1991, serve notice on the Consent Holder of its intention to review the conditions of these consents in any year during the month of January or July for any one or more of the following purposes:

- (a) To deal with any adverse effects on the environment that may arise from the exercise of these consents and which it is appropriate to deal with at a later stage, or to deal with any such effects following assessment of the results of the monitoring of the consent and/or as a result of the Northland Regional Council's monitoring of the state of the environment in the area.
- (b) To require the adoption of the best practicable option to remove or reduce any adverse effect on the environment.
- (c) To change existing, or impose new limits on conditions relating to the quality of the discharges and/or compliance standards to be met in the receiving waters.

The Consent Holder shall meet all reasonable costs of any such review.

EXPIRY DATE: 30 NOVEMBER 2033

Please note that this consent was issued by D L Roke as Independent Hearings Commissioner on 18 September 2013 being the date of the Independent Hearings Commissioner's decision.



Map reference: Geodetic Datum 2000, NZTM:
Site 102101 Outlet of natural marsh area - at or about location coordinates 1616005E - 6110501N
Site 100301 Outlet of artificial wetland - at or about location coordinates 1616086E - 6110696N

	By	Date
Dwn.	C N Anderson	11/03
App'd		
Amendment		
No.	By	Date

RESOURCE CONSENT
3775
 for
Far North District Council
Ahipara Wastewater Discharge

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL		
Scale	Plan No.	
N.T.S.	3431	

SCHEDULE 1

MONITORING PROGRAMME

The Consent Holder (or its authorised agent) shall monitor Resource Consent 3775 in accordance with the following monitoring programme.

1.0 SITES

The following sites shall be monitored (shown on NRC Plan 3431, **attached**).

NRC Site Number	Location Description
100301	Outlet of artificial wetland
102101	Compliance point at edge of fenced area – Outlet from natural marsh

2.0 SAMPLING PROCEDURES, DETERMINANDS AND FREQUENCY

Triplicate (see Note 1 below) water/wastewater samples shall be collected monthly from NRC Sites 100301 and 102101 and analysed for:

- pH
- Temperature (see Note 2 below)
- Electrical conductivity
- Dissolved oxygen (see Note 2 below)
- Total suspended solids
- Faecal coliforms (see Note 3 below)
- Total ammoniacal nitrogen [(NH₄+NH₃)-N]

In addition, for a period of two years from the date of first commencement of the discharge of leachate from the Ahipara Landfill into the aerated treatment pond, the monthly water/wastewater samples shall also be analysed for:

- Total arsenic
- Total cadmium
- Total chromium
- Total copper
- Total lead
- Total zinc

Note 1: *Triplicate sampling shall involve collection of three separate samples taken at least five minutes apart during the same sampling event. Analysis shall be conducted on a composite sample made up of equal volumes of each triplicate sample.*

Note 2: *Temperature and dissolved oxygen shall be measured in the field using a meter in accordance with standard procedures and triplicate measurements are not required for these parameters.*

Note 3: *Faecal coliforms shall, unless otherwise agreed to with the Northland Regional Council, be measured using the membrane filtration method.*

3.0 COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITION 10

3.1 Median Value

The median value for the determinands listed shall be a "rolling" median calculated on the 12 most recent treated wastewater samples collected. Until such time as 12 individual monthly samples have been collected, the results of sampling to date shall be utilised for compliance purposes.

3.2 90th Percentile Values

The 90th percentile values for the determinands listed shall be a "rolling" 90th percentile values calculated on the 12 most recent treated wastewater samples collected. Until such time as 12 individual monthly samples have been collected, the results of sampling to date shall be utilised for compliance purposes.

4.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION, SAMPLE TRANSPORT, AND LABORATORY REQUIREMENTS

All samples shall be collected in using standard procedures and in appropriate laboratory supplied containers.

All samples collected as part of this monitoring programme shall be transported in accordance with standard procedures and under chain of custody to the laboratory.

All samples collected shall be analysed at a laboratory with registered quality assurance procedures[#], and all analyses are to be undertaken using standard methods, where applicable.

[#] Registered Quality Assurance Procedures are procedures which ensure that the laboratory meets recognised management practices as would include registrations such as ISO 9000, ISO Guide 25, Ministry of Health Accreditation.

5.0 REPORTING

The Consent Holder shall report the results of each monitoring visit to the Northland Regional Council and Te Runanga O Te Rarawa within one month of each visit (as required by Condition 9 of the consent). If any significant odours are noted at or beyond the property boundary of the aerated oxidation pond, the Consent Holder shall notify the Northland Regional Council within 24 hours of the visit.