

# Far North Proposed District Plan

22 October 2024

Hearing 6/7

General District-Wide Matters – Earthworks, Light, Noise, Signs, Temporary Activities and Genetically Modified Organisms



# Contents of S42A Report Writers Overview

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Each of the Six topics:

Overview of Submissions

Key Matters for Consideration

# Earthworks - Overview of Submissions

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- 46 original submissions (193 submission points)
- 43 further submitters (320 submission points)

## Submissions from:

- Primary sector submitters (e.g. Federated Farmers, Hort NZ, forestry submitters)
- Infrastructure providers (e.g. Transpower, Top Energy, Telco Companies)
- Government agencies (e.g. NRC, Heritage NZ, DOC)
- Planning and engineering firms (e.g. Northland Planning and Development Limited)

# Earthworks - Key matters raised



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- Duplication and overlap with regional controls on earthworks by NRC under the Northland Regional Plan (NRP).
  - Unnecessary duplication between PDP earthworks rules that require compliance with the same earthworks standards.
  - The need to provide for earthworks associated with all primary production activities.
  - Concerns that some of the earthworks standards are too stringent and/or uncertain.
  - Requests for exemptions to certain earthworks rules and standards for range of activities.



# Earthworks - Key s42A recommendations

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- Remove/refine provisions that are primarily regional council functions (e.g. effects on water bodies)
  - Replace rules with a single earthworks rule (EW-R1) that permits earthworks subject compliance with all earthworks standards (EW-S1 to EW-S9).
  - Provides a more effective and effects-based rule framework that is generally supported.
  - A range of targeted exemptions to earthworks standards for certain common/low risk activities.
  - For example:
    - EW-S1 (thresholds) – maintenance of existing tracks and roads, septic tanks, maintenance of drains
    - EW-S2 (cut and fill) – land disturbance
    - EW-S6 (setbacks) – land disturbance, infrastructure and utility connections, formation of driveway or crossing
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# Earthworks – Outstanding issues in evidence



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- A number of submitters support the section 42A recommendations
  - Outstanding issues in pre-circulated evidence:
    - Requested rule for earthworks to be setback to archeological sites (Heritage NZ)
    - Exemptions to EW-S1 for infrastructure (Top Energy) and common activities (Waitangi Limited)
    - Exemptions to EW-S2 for telecommunication pole foundations (Telco Companies)
    - Earthworks rules in National Grid Yard (Transpower) and near Critical Electricity Lines (Top Energy)
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# Noise and Light - Overview of Submissions

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## Noise and Light

- 38 original submitters (170 submission points)
- 25 further submitters (263 submission points)
  
- Submissions came from Government agencies, iwi groups, community interest groups, the primary production sector, landowners and others. These submissions covered a range of matters.

# Noise - Key Matters for Consideration

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- Helicopter landing areas provisions.
- Definitions
- Additional noise provisions for rail lines.
- Noise provisions that relate to State Highways.
- Giving effect to the RPS within the objectives and policies in relation to avoiding reverse sensitivity effects on lawfully established noise-generating activities.
- Exemption from noise provisions for generators and mobile equipment used for emergency purposes, including testing and maintenance.
- Additional noise provisions specific to substations.
- Permitted times for the use of audible bird scaring devices.
- Interrelationship between zone noise limits, particularly between the Heavy Industrial zone and Open Space zones.



# Light - Key Matters for Consideration



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- No submitter evidence has been circulated except in support for the recommended provisions.

# GMOs - Overview of Submissions

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## GMOs

- 7 original submitters (12 submission points)
- 8 further submitters (45 submission points)
  
- Submissions came from Government agencies, iwi groups, community interest groups, the primary production sector, landowners and others. These submissions covered a range of matters.



# GMOs - Key Matters for Consideration



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- No submitter evidence has been circulated except in support for the recommended provisions.

# Signs – Overview of submissions



## Signs

- 17 Original submissions (with 76 individual submission points)
- 13 Further submissions (with 115 individual submission points)
- 7 Submissions in in general support
- 48 support in part
- 7 opposed
- 14 did not say
  
- Submitters included FNDC, community interest groups, businesses and transport operators



# Signs – Key Matters for Consideration



## Key issues

- Clarification and interpretation matters
  - New definitions and amended SIGN-R10 and note 1, table 1
- Maximum area and height of signs
  - Amended sign height limits SIGN-S2
- Visual clutter reduction
- Temporary signs and community signs
  - Amended SIGN-R3 to reduce duration of temp signs
- Third party signs
- Exemptions from compliance
  - Exemptions in SIGN-S1 and SIGN- S3 for Waitangi Estate
- Transport and network safety
  - Minor amendments to SIGN-P4
- General matters
  - Amendments SIGN-R7 PER-3 – lawfully established, New rule digital signs in Light industrial zone

# Temporary Activities - Overview of Submissions

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## Temporary Activities

- 11 original submitters (18 submission points)
- 9 further submitters (9 submission points)
  
- Submissions came from Transpower, Waitangi Ltd, NZDF Waiaua Bay Farms Ltd NZ Agricultural Aviation Association and Balanced Agri-Nutrients Ltd and other interest groups. These submissions covered a range of matters.



# Temporary Activities - Key Matters for Consideration



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- No submitter evidence has been circulated except in support for the recommended provisions.