

Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade

MINUTES for the Meeting held on **TUESDAY, 18 July 2023.**

Start time 10:00 am

End time 10:30 am

Attending:

Keith Martin – 3 Waters Manager WDC
Mathew Telfer- Contract Manager Watercare
Stephen Howard - Senior Consenting and Strategic Planner Watercare
Karlene Rhind - Senior Community Engagement Advisor WDC
Kahurimu Flavell - Oranga – Project Advisor, Taiao
Richard Bax – Resource Consent Planner WDC
Hazel Coalter - Infrastructure Development Manager
Garrett Hall - Technical Director - Environments – Beca
Richard Pullar - Infrastructure Delivery Manager

Apologies

Hori Awa – CEO Waahi Whaanui Trust
Glen Tupuhi - Chair Ngā Muka
Tawera Nikau -

Agenda

- Opening
- Introductions
- Review of Minutes
- Action List
- Mātauranga Māori updates
- General matters
- Closing

Purpose

A general review of the Rāhui Pōkeka wastewater treatment plant was provided. The consent for the plant expires in 2029 and the LTP has funding to upgrade the WWTP within the same time.

With the Sleepyhead Development in Ohinewai requiring wastewater to be sent to a compliant plant, the WWTP requires updating sooner to support the development. The WWTP is currently non-compliant. The noncompliance exists in the 90th percentile for ammoniacal nitrogen. To support the Sleepyhead development and improve environmental compliance, Council would like to have the early design and resource consent requirements agreed by June 2023 and the plant completed within the 2026 financial year.

With mana whenua insight and in the spirit of te ture whaimana, te tiriti o te waitangi and te mana o te wai and te mana o te awa, Council would like to continue the partnership to ensure that the future of the Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade respects and considers mātauranga māori as we look to renew the resource consent and develop the concept design of the WWTP.

This group will come together regularly to discuss all aspects of the Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade to enable alignment of views and the appropriate outcomes for all parties to be achieved. To enable this, Council has had funding bought forward and approved. \$2.1 million has been allocated towards concept design and resource consent.

Minutes

Review of last minutes provided and accepted.

Discussion in respect to plans for the WWTP.

- Upgrade existing plant to enable resource consent compliance (Nitrogen)
- Develop design for new WWTP to enable plant to be upgraded for 2028/2029
- Initiate resource consent planning

Introduced Richard Bax who will assist WDC with Resource consent programme and application.

Introduced Garrett Hall, BECA, who will assist Watercare with Tuna Relocation investigation and matters in respect to the WWTP design upgrade.

Stephen Howard has resigned from Watercare.

Wastewater as a resource or reuse. Looking at opportunity and options that Iwi/Hapu may have in respect to water reuse.

Actions

Action	Who	Status
Set up regular fortnightly update meetings	Keith	Completed

Resource Consent Compliance	Watercare	Project plan to be provided to assist understanding of temporary plant upgrade to enable compliance with current consent
Tuna as a Taonga. Look at impact on Tuna (Eels) from the WWTP and what could be adopted by WDC to ensure this taonga is protected	Tarāi Waikato Tainui Garrett Hall	Garrett to advise on work previously undertaken by other TLA and how this can be incorporated into this project
Catch and release program	Tarāi Waikato Tainui	Talk to fish and game about Tuna and the proposal. Seek their previous experience and learning.
Tuna protected from being caught in the system and from pumps and outfall within the WWTP upgrade concept.	Richard Pullar	
Explore how the Rāhui Pōkeka WWTP Upgrade program can assist in improving the health and wellbeing of Tuna within the Awa.	Tarāi Waikato Tainui	
Proposal for Restoration fund to be developed	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual funding contribution from Council 2. \$xx for the restoration of XX meters plant per annum 3. Determine appropriate funding body to manage restoration program 4. Develop supporting agreement.
Reuse	Tarāi Waikato Tainui	Explore opportunities within Waikato Tainui to determine if treated wastewater could be used as a resource within tribal business activity. The nursery at Ngaruawahia was discussed

ATTACHMENTS