



Submission on proposed Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington region, 2009

Pursuant to Clause 6 of the first Schedule and Section 79 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Submission can be:

Posted to: Freepost 118112
Proposed Regional Policy Statement
Greater Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

Delivered to: Ground Floor Reception, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington

Faxed to: 04 385 6960

E-mailed to: rps@gw.govt.nz

Submissions need to be received by 25 May 2009 at 4pm

Your name and contact details:

Full name: Noeline Gannaway
Full postal address: 83 Wright St, Mt Cook, Wellington 6021

Telephone no.: Work: Home: 04-384-2202
Facsimile:

Contact person:

Address and telephone no.....
(if different from above)

Submission

1. The specific parts of the proposed Regional Policy Statement that my submission relates to are as follows:

Chapter 2 - 2.1 A sustainable region, par 3
and ecological systems retain their life-supporting capacity
and are not overly degraded. (p7)
Chapter 4 - 4.1 Policy 7: local authority water supply
network and water treatment plants. (p 34)

Most of the policy statement is admirable and has my support.

(Clearly indicate which parts of the document you support or oppose, or wish to have amendments made to. Please continue on separate sheet(s), if necessary)

2. My submission is that: the word "overly" in "overly degraded" be omitted.

(PT)

I am concerned that the laudable policies proposed by the Regional Council are not always upheld in practice.

Pest control management is not included in this policy statement ^{because} I am concerned to learn that an aerial 1080 drop is planned inevitably threatening the life-supporting capacity of ecosystems. (See copy of unpublished letter to the Dominion Post and extract from "The Poisoning of New Zealand" by Meriel Watters)

It is of concern that fluoride as industrial waste is still added to Wellington's water despite scientific evidence of its adverse health effects. These include osteosarcoma (bone cancer) in young men, and hip fractures in the elderly.

(See enclosed press release from FANNZ, and statement from Curdson water engineer - already submitted)

(State the reasons for your submission. Please continue on separate sheet(s), if necessary)

I wish Greater Wellington to make the following decision:

In order to protect the life-supporting capacity of ecosystems, Greater Wellington should stop all aerial application of 1080, instead opting for hand-based pest management.

In the interests of public health, Greater Wellington should discontinue the practice of water fluoridation.

Thank you for considering my submission.

(Give precise details. Please continue on separate sheet(s), if necessary)

Please tick applicable box(es)

- I do wish to be heard in support of my submission (This means that you wish to speak at the hearing)
- I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission (This means you have elected not to speak at the hearing)
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Signature: Heleina Samuani
(Person making submission, or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission)

Date: 1 May 2009

Submission to Regional Council

Extract from THE POISONING OF NEW ZEALAND By Meriel Watts (1994)p188-9

When two previous manufacturers of 1080, Fike Enterprises and Tull Chemical Company were questioned by a Taranaki company about the advisability of New Zealand's current practices, they were both adamant that 1080 should not be applied aerially under any circumstances, let alone where waterways are involved – it is way too toxic.

There are a number of areas where the environmental impacts of continued 1080 use have not been researched fully:

- Sub-lethal effects on humans, birds, dogs and other species, especially reproductive effects. Egg production in certain wasps was found to be disrupted by a single dose of 1080 (Clarke, 1993). I have heard several claims of farm animals' breeding cycles being severely disrupted after sub-lethal poisoning. Notman (1989) reported sub-lethal poisoning in weta, with disruptions in their diurnal rhythms. Norton (1992) refers to Hutcheson's findings that 1080 severely disrupts the behaviour of weta.
- Impact on populations of native species, especially rare or high ones such as kiwi, kaka, kea, saddleback, kokako short-tailed bat (Clarke, 1993) There is also no adequate data on the impact on other individual members of the ecosystem - introduced bird species, invertebrates, fungi, reptiles, amphibians, plants. Eason et al (undated) reported persistence of 1080 in weta for at least 14 days.

There is distinct disagreement between the many verbal reports of devastation to bird populations following 1080 operations ("the forest was silent"; "dead birds lay everywhere") and the official DoC bird counts, reported by Norton (1993) as being typically of five minutes duration and covering only the common species.

- * Impact on the overall ecosystem health, on ~~an~~ insect communities and microorganisms lacking the ability to detoxify 1080. Current Landcare research *suggests* that aerial drops of 1080 might affect insect communities and that their long-term recovery is slower than previously thought (Sutherland, 1993)
- Absorption of 1080 by plants, and subsequent risk to insects, birds and grazing animals. Although sodium monofluoroacetate occurs naturally in plants in Australia and South Africa it does not in New Zealand, and our animal, invertebrate and plant populations have not evolved alongside it.
- The breakdown of 1080 under unfavourable climatic conditions – for example it may take several months to break down under dry cold conditions...(Sutherland, 1993)

Letter to Dominion Post - Unpublished

Noeline

From: "Noeline" <noel@paradise.net.nz>
To: <letters@dompost.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 25 March 2009 19:18
Subject: Drop the 1080 drop

*Now part of submission
to Regional Council*

83 Wright St Mt Cook Wellington 6021 Ph. 384-2202

~~The Editor
The Dominion Post~~

Sir,

You report (19 March) that a 1080 drop is planned over Wellington's water catchment area in May. While I acknowledge that possum numbers need to be controlled, I hope this plan will be changed in favour of land-based pest management.

This would provide welcome employment for hunters, and possum skins could be utilised to create a sustainable industry.

Aerial drops make it harder to protect dogs, which are acutely sensitive to 1080. Hundreds of dogs are said to be poisoned each year, mostly by eating poisoned possum carcasses or left-over baits, or by licking water from contaminated puddles.

Possum carcasses can still be poisonous to dogs for up to at least 75 days after a 1080 operation. It's not known how far a lethally-dosed possum can travel before it dies, possibly 12 hours later. Nor is it known how far downstream a poisoned carcass may be carried.

Birds too are killed by 1080 - an acceptable loss, some have argued, given the overall gain to bird populations through predator kill.

Of real concern are possible health risks from small, sub-lethal doses of 1080 and its toxic break-down product fluorocitrate to both humans and other animals. The results of laboratory tests suggest 1080 may be an endocrine disruptor, capable of causing serious effects at extremely low levels of exposure. Until more scientific work is done, we cannot be sure.

Meantime, the precautionary principle should apply.

Yours sincerely
Noeline Gannaway
noel@paradise.net.nz

Submission to Regional Council

National Fluoridation-free NZ Campaign (Press Release, May 4 - 2009)

A national "fluoridation-free New Zealand" campaign was jointly launched on Saturday in Whangarei, before a meeting of about 60 citizens, wanting their water to remain unfluoridated. The campaign comprises a coalition of national health-focussed organisations. Initially formed by Fluoride Action Network NZ (FANNZ) and Health Freedom NZ, it includes the NZ Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (comprising doctors and dentists), the NZ Health Trust, the Safe Food Campaign, the Weston Price Foundation, and the Soil and Health Association of NZ (Publishers of Organic NZ).

The campaign's call for a nationwide ban on water fluoridation is also supported by other national organisations: GE-Free NZ, and the NZ Democratic Party for Social Credit.

Following a DVD of internationally recognised scientists, doctors, and dentists raising health concerns about fluoridation, coalition representatives from FANNZ and Health Freedom expanded on a number of issues, to the applause of audience.

"No doctor can prescribe medication for a patient he or she has never seen. Yet we allow medically unqualified councillors to do just that" pointed out Nicola Grace of Health Freedom. In 2006 the US Public Health Service warned parents not to use fluoridated water to make up baby formula. The NZ Ministry of Health denies it, yet it knows that the same warning appears in our own Baby Formula Standard report. "It is not safe for babies, yet we keep putting this toxic industrial waste, laced with arsenic, lead, and mercury, in our water. Are we crazy?" asks Mark Atkin, of FANNZ.

The campaign is encouraging people and Councils to declare "fluoridation-free zones" in the same way "GE-free zones" were declared some years ago.

The dangers of fluoridation have been well documented for over 60 years, and especially since the US National Research Council Review published in 2006. This review identified a number of groups at special risk – which total between 30% and 40% of the NZ population according to FANNZ' calculations. "Maori and Pacific Islanders feature in these groups, and so are at special risk" the meeting heard.

Other international research shows that 1% of the population has a chemical intolerance to fluoride - just as some people have a wheat or dairy intolerance. "That's 40,000 New Zealanders" advised Mark Atkin of FANNZ.

The meeting heard that fluoridation also increases dental fluorosis – an often unsightly tooth condition resulting from fluoride poisoning in infancy. "To promote fluoridation today as 'safe and effective' is grossly negligent. Anyone harmed by fluoridation has the basis for a legal claim for damages. Such class action law

suits are being prepared in the USA, UK, and Australia” states Mr Atkin, a trained scientist and lawyer.

“Fluoridation was pushed onto the NZ public from the 1950s by collusion between the Department of Health, The NZ Dental Association, the University of Otago’s Medical and Dental Schools, and the Medical Research Council, as stated in the NZ Dental Journal December 2008, and the Army Dental Service. In 1958 the group, by then the Fluoridation Committee, adopted the same PR campaign tactics used by the tobacco industry to promote cigarette smoking” Mr Atkin told the meeting, quoting from his Masters thesis research. Promoters relied on the Napier-Hastings study, and US studies, to promote fluoridation, all of which have since been scientifically discredited.

“Misguided belief in fluoridation has become ingrained in the NZ public psyche as a result of this endless propaganda. Otherwise intelligent people refuse to examine the facts, and cling to a quasi-religious belief in fluoridation in spite of the overwhelming evidence that it is the biggest medical fraud in history. However, the tide has turned. Fluoridation’s days are numbered” assures Mr Atkin.

More information on the Campaign can be found at www.BanFluoride.org.nz.

Monday 4 May

Contact Mark Atkin

04 – 5651056/ 04- 4625220