

3. The Marsden Point Air Quality Management Area

This strategy is designed to manage air quality in the Marsden Point. The strategy applies to any existing or new development requiring resource consent to discharge to air if the development:

- 1) is to be located within the area identified in Figure 2.2; or
- 2) is located outside the area in Figure 2.2 but there is the potential for air discharges to enter the area and significantly add to the cumulative effects of discharges of sulphur dioxide, fine particulate (PM₁₀) or nitrogen dioxide.

In this content 'significantly' means where the estimated contribution to air quality degradation, in terms of contaminant concentrations in ambient air, is more than 10% of the relevant guideline or standard.

As discussed previously, the Northland Regional Council defined its airshed boundaries and provided these to MfE before July 2005. The airshed is identical to Figure 2.2.

3.1 Objectives for Air Quality

Objectives 1 to 3 in the existing Regional Air Quality Plan for Northland are unlikely to be changed as a result of the development of this strategy. However, specific policies for Marsden Point will need to be developed, to sit within the air quality objectives in the Plan.

It is recognised that Marsden Point is an area where industrial development is allowed to occur according to the Whangarei District Plan. Development of the area will be encouraged with regard given to policies 1 and 2 of this strategy.

Policy 1

That air quality in the Marsden Point Area shall be managed in a consistent way to allow for industrial development while ensuring that:

- (i) *Ambient air quality is maintained in a state of compliance with the National Environmental Standards in Table 2, and*
- (ii) *That the air quality is maintained in accordance with the guidelines listed in Tables 2 and 3.*

Policy 2

That regard shall be given to reverse sensitivity effects from incompatible uses when considering future land use decisions in the Marsden Point area.

3.2 Implementation Methods

To implement Policy 1, the Northland Regional Council will:

Method 1

Maintain input data for a comprehensive dispersion modelling tool (CALMET and CALPUFF) to be used for new consent applications in the Marsden Point area. Particular attention will be given to cumulative effects of discharges of sulphur dioxide, fine particulate (PM₁₀) and nitrogen dioxide.

Consider establishing a technical liaison group to assist in the maintenance and review of the CALMET input data files.

Method 2

Promote the use of CALPUFF version 5.7 or later versions for assessing cumulative effects from new discharges of sulphur dioxide, fine particulate (PM₁₀) or nitrogen dioxide in the Marsden Point area. Encourage use of the same model for other contaminants as appropriate.

Method 3

Develop and maintain an air emissions inventory for the Marsden Point area in an electronic format suitable for use in the CALPUFF modelling tool.

Consider establishing a technical liaison group to assist in the development and maintenance of the air emissions inventory.

Method 4

When appropriate, encourage and support industry with emissions trading for those who discharge sulphur dioxide, fine particulate (PM₁₀) or nitrogen dioxide in the area.

Method 5

Facilitate a co-ordinated ambient air monitoring network in the area by imposing monitoring conditions in resource consents and, if necessary, maintaining council monitoring sites.

Method 6

Apply the best practicable option to minimise emissions of toxic air pollutants

To implement Policy 2, the Northland Regional Council will:

Method 7

Where necessary, make submissions on the Whangarei District Plan and applications for resource consents to ensure that the potential for reverse sensitivity effects is addressed.

Method 8

Promote the use of airshed management tools (described in Methods 1 to 5) for assessing potential reverse sensitivity effects associated with new developments.