

Topic: Air Quality

Northland Regional Council

24 October 2014, 9:30am – 3:30pm

Council Chambers, Northland Regional Council,
36 Water Street, Whangarei

Workshop goals:

Participants will:

- Understand the current approach to managing air quality in the regional plans.
- Provide feedback on problems with the current approach to managing air quality in the regional plans.
- Share their ideas about possible future management approaches for managing air quality in the new regional plan(s).
- Know how to continue to be involved in the development of the new regional plan(s).

Chair: NRC Councillor (TBC)

Presenters: Jon Trewin (NRC)

Facilitators: Michael Day, Ben Lee (NRC)

Note taker: Michael Payne (NRC)

Experts / scientists: Stuart Savill (NRC)

9:30 – 9:45 **Welcome, introductions, and house keeping**

Short presentation from NRC and participants to introduce themselves

9:45 - 11:00 **Northland's air quality**

NRC to give a short presentation with a focus on smoke, odour, spray and dust. The presentation will briefly cover the state of air quality in Northland, an assessment of the current plan's performance and offer some possible solutions to identified problems. Additionally, Horticulture NZ to present on a risk management approach to spraying.

Key questions for the discussion:

- Should the plan better recognise rural vs urban areas?
- Can the structure of the plan rules be improved?
- Can we manage smoke, odour, spray and dust discharges more effectively? For example: smokey fires, aerial spraying, sandblasting, rural odour.
- Can compliance costs be reduced for certain activities?
- Are there more examples of best practice we could integrate or reference in rules?
- Any other issues?

Discussion could be flexible depending on interest. For example there could be separate groups for rural issues and industry issues. Alternatively there could be groups formed around the type of discharge – e.g. smoke, odour, dust, spray.

- 11:00 - 11:15 **Morning tea (provided)**
- 11:15 - 1:00 **Discussion continued.**
- 1:00 - 1:30 **Lunch**
- 1:30 - 3:00 **Discussion continued (if required)**
- 3:00 – 3:15 **Afternoon tea (provided)**
- 3.15 – 3:30 **Wrap up, next steps & evaluations**
- Summary of key points from the day
 - Next steps in the process explained
 - Participants evaluate the workshop