

28.9.23

To: Hearing Commissioners, Northland Regional Council

Submitters: Jessie McVeagh and Kahu McVeagh Nathan

Submission on: Revised Consent Conditions for Opononi/Omapere Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Kohukohu Wastewater Treatment Plant

Applicant: Far North District Council

Description of activity: Short term discharge permit to wastewater

We are pleased to see that the time frame for the consents is now three years, nga mihi nui FNDC Councillors and staff. We do not support the increase of the quantity nor the lowering of the quality of the discharge. The applicant should be required to improve the treatment and bring it to current compliance levels, not increase the pollution!

We also support the two proposed CLG, however, it is for the local people to determine the makeup of these CLG. The groups should be led by local hapū, supported by the community and whomever else these groups choose to bring in to their roopu. The CLG should set their own The Terms of Reference.

FNDC should work alongside the CLG for the purpose of finding and setting milestones to achieve zero human waste to water from these WWTP, and to find culturally, environmentally, socially and economically viable solutions to human waste in these areas, within the three-year term.

The Terms of Reference for the combined working groups of the CLG and FNDC should be written by the CLG. The CLG should have control of meeting times and places, agenda, and purpose. We expect there to be milestones set by the combined working group towards achieving the goal of appropriate wastewater treatment within the three-year term.

Should mana whenua choose to include cultural monitoring, this should be supported by the applicant, to be carried out on the terms set by mana whenua.

There should not be a requirement for the chemically assisted solids removal and UV in Opononi Omapere if there are acceptable alternatives- seeking these alternatives is a part of the mahi of the CLG and FNDC working group.

Naku noa

Jessie McVeagh and Kahu McVeagh Nathan