

Topic: Hazardous substances and contaminated land

Northland Regional Council

10 October 2014, 9:30am – 3:15pm

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

Workshop goals:

Participants will:

- Understand the current approach to managing solid waste, hazardous substance discharges and contaminated land in the regional plans.
- Provide feedback on problems with the current approach.
- Share their ideas about possible future management approaches in the new regional plan(s).
- Know how to continue to be involved in the development of the new regional plan(s).

Chair: NRC Councilor (TBC)

Presenters: Michael Payne (NRC)

Facilitators: Ben Lee and Michael Day (NRC)

Note taker: John Trewin (NRC)

Experts / scientists: Stuart Savill and James Mitchell (NRC)

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

Short presentation from NRC and participants to introduce themselves

9:45 – 10:00 **Setting the scene**

A short presentation from NRC outlining what this topic does (and does not) cover and a high level overview of the current approach in the Regional Water and Soil Plan.

10:00 - 11:00 **Session 1: Discharges of hazardous substances to land and water**

A presentation from NRC outlining the current approach to managing discharges of hazardous substances to land and into water, issues with the current approach and ideas for future management. This will be followed by facilitated discussion - in groups (e.g. by areas of interest) or all together depending on number

Key questions for the discussion:

- Is the existing 'no discharge' of hazardous substances to water or land threshold appropriate?
- Should the new plan set a different threshold?
- If so what should that be?

11:00 - 11:15 **Morning tea (provided)**

11:15 - 11:45 **Session 1 continued**

11:45 - 1:00 **Session 2: Use of dust suppressants**

A presentation from NRC outlining the current approach for managing the use of dust suppressants, issues with the current approach and ideas for future management. This will be followed by facilitated discussion - in groups (e.g. by areas of interest) or all together depending on numbers.

Key questions for the discussion:

- Why aren't lignin based products more widely used for dust suppression?
- Do you think waste oil should be an option for dust suppression?
- Are the health risks associated with waste oil acceptable?

1:00 - 1:30 **Lunch (provided)**

1:30 -2:30 **Session 3: Solid waste**

NRC staff will do a short presentation outlining the current approach to managing solid waste and a proposed approach for how it could be managed in the future. This will be followed by facilitated discussion (in groups or all together depending on numbers).

Key questions for the discussion:

- Is some low risk waste being sent to landfill because of the current rules that could safely be disposed of in a different way?
- Is the 12 cubic meter per year limit for farm dumps appropriate?
- Why aren't agrecovey programs (eg. Plasback) more widely used in Northland? What needs to change?
- Should we allow bio-solids (Aa rated) to be disposed of to land as a permitted activity?

2:30 – 3.00 **Wrap up, next steps & evaluations**

- Summary of key points from the day
- Next steps in the process explained
- Participants evaluate the workshop

3:00 – 3:15 **Afternoon tea (provided)**