

Motuti Marae Trustees

325 Motuti Road, RD2., Kohukohu 0492

Northland Regional Council

Re: Application by Far North District Council for Discharge Consent of Wastewater into Hokianga Harbour.

Tena koutou,

1. Motuti Marae is one of the effected marae communities in relation to this application.
2. We note that this application is for a period of 15 years. This is the same timeframe as the current consent, so it is disappointing that suitable upgrades and exploration of land-based solutions, have not occurred already, knowing that the current consent was coming to its expiry date.
3. It is on record, that Te Rarawa marae hapū have opposed the discharge of wastewater and raw sewage by the FNDC, into the Hokianga Harbour, in a previous application, to the extent of taking the matter to the Environment Court.
4. Our application at that time was unsuccessful, but it showed the extent to which we were prepared to go in protecting the degradation of our harbour.
5. This should have raised a red flag to the FNDC, to commence immediate planning at that time, to put in place alternative wastewater infrastructure, that does not contaminate and impact on the mauri of our harbour.
6. The Te Rarawa Land Claims Settlement Act 2015 - gives statutory acknowledgment over the Hokianga Harbour. FNDC must therefore work with Te Rarawa, and it's affected hapu Marae to put in place land-based remedies to treat wastewater. This should be planned in a way that a further application is not required to discharge into the Hokianga Harbour, in the future.
7. Tangata whenua are pragmatic enough to know that this cannot be done overnight however, we will strongly oppose, if an application for a further renewal to discharge into Hokianga Harbour, should be applied for.
8. We expect to be kept informed of how the FNDC programme of works is progressing as they develop their wastewater infrastructure for all the wastewater plants that discharge into the Hokianga Harbour.

9. Motuti marae supports the Te Rarawa Cultural Impact Assessment and presents this letter as an accompanying document.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Desire'e Andrews', written in a cursive style.

Desire'e Andrews
Motuti Marae

cc: Chairman Motuti Marae