

From: MariaD Barnes <a
Sent: Friday, 29 September 2023 12:41 pm
To: Alissa Sluys
Subject: Response

Personal submission of Maria Barnes and Phoebe Watkins

To: Hearing Commissioners, Northland Regional Council

Submitter: Maria Barnes and Phoebe Watkins

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. We support the move to a land-based solution, which ensures that our moana is no longer desecrated by human waste. This needs to be written in as a requirement and milestone to report against.

We support the development of the CLG. This should include our local hapu that connect to the areas concerned and skilled community members, who can call on experts if required.

The Terms of Reference should be written by our people and they should have control of meeting times and places. Annual meetings will not be sufficient to get through the necessary work.

Monitoring is not up to standard for either plants and this requires specific design and attention. We want our people involved at all levels and to ensure adequate records are kept as part of the monitoring process, There should also be reference to our matauranga Māori knowledge led by our people who have generational knowledge and years of experience living on our whenua.

A research component should be designed to capture the developments of this work as we move towards a more sustainable environmentally friendly system.

Omapere-Opononi and Kohukohu WWTPs are:

1. That the purpose of the CLG is to find a culturally and environmentally appropriate landbased treatment and discharge within the three-year time frame
2. That the CLG take control of the Terms of Reference, the times, dates and places of meeting
3. That milestones to arrive at this solution be part of the Terms of Reference

4. That monitoring be extended to include Mataranga Māori forms of monitoring by the haukainga
5. That the monitoring standards are of high quality and are essential to this work
6. That research is designed and recorded to capture the developments and voices of our people who live in the areas these systems serve.



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