

**L R King**

**Brief 16/5/23**

**Who are we.**

We are the people who live, swim, fish, boat and allow our children and grandchildren to engage with the harbour and water ways.

**Hearing Rawene.**

1. 1980 some 40 years ago sewer plants were constructed using latest affordable technology. In those days we had very little in the way of forward plans.
2. Today we have numerous. Central government plans, Resource management Act, Coastal policies act, Fresh water act, clean water policies, regional plans, Regional long-term plans, Regional Catchment plans, District Annual plans, District 10-year plans, District Long term plans, and so it goes on.
3. All the above are in place so that the People can expect development of assets to trend forward.
4. There is even an Act that demands Authorities depreciate the assets. There should be a very large nest egg available to be applied to these projects.

**History of progress examples.**

5. **Farming.** 70 years ago, cowsheds and piggeries were built near rivers. On a trip to the West coast South Island, I saw numerous examples of this. Cowshed built on river edges so that the excrement could be swept into the river. Progress has been made and even an extremely negligent polluter would see those as archaic thoughts and have a higher level of expectation. Those industries have improved and developed to very high standards and if you do not comply, the risk of heavy fines and possible bankruptcy with fines of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Progress was made.
6. **Rubbish.** 75 years ago, most local Authority rubbish tips were on Harbour Mudflats. Rawene, Omanaia, Paihia are examples of that. Over the last 40 years we have closed those down and centralized landfills with strict guidelines, as well as a grand push to recycle. Progress again is made.
7. **Sewerage Schemes Hokianga.** No progress in 40 years

**Sewerage Schemes on the Hokianga harbour have made Zero progress and have regressed.**

8. These have stood still while other areas have moved ahead.
9. Despite all the, Government Acts, Regional plans and policies, District Plans and policies Hokianga Schemes have not progressed.
10. They have deteriorated to an unacceptable level with the Opononi outlet broken and smelly ponds and lack of general upkeep and worst of all band aid approach.
11. Of note, areas like Auckland City with the progressive steps they have made.

**Missed Opportunities to move ahead with the community.**

12. The technology available is vast and community acceptable suggestion are being ignored. The inability to adopted land based or any new technology is rejected in favour of the continued no change band aid approach.

**My Recommendations.**

That the application be rejected, and the council be instructed to genuinely engage with local people who have demonstrated modern affordable land-based technology available for use. The solutions are available in the communities that live in the environment instead of desk top ideas from people who have never touched our water.