

5.5 COASTAL SETTLEMENT POLICY UNIT

5.5.3 Standards for Permitted and Discretionary Activities

(See Appendix D for Assessment of Discretionary Activities)

		Coastal Settlement Zone	
		Permitted Activities	Discretionary Activities
(k)	<p>Noise</p> <p><u>Excluding noise generated within the same site, any warning device used by emergency services and noise controlled elsewhere in this Plan.</u></p> <p>- 0700 - 2000 hrs Mon - Fri</p> <p>- 0700 - 1800 hrs Saturday</p> <p>- all other times including public holidays</p> <p><u>Construction noise</u></p> <p><u>(measured in accordance with NZS6803: 1999 Construction Noise)</u></p> <p><u>Helicopter Landing Areas</u></p> <p><u>(measured and assessed in</u></p>	<p>55dBA <u>L₁₀ Leg</u> at any point within the boundary of a residential activity</p> <p>45dBA <u>L₁₀ Leg</u> at any point within the boundary of a residential activity</p> <p><u>Shall be in accordance with the provisions of NZS6803: 1999 Construction Noise</u></p> <p><u>Shall be in accordance with the</u></p>	<p>55dBA <u>L₁₀ Leg</u> at any point within the boundary of a residential activity</p> <p>45dBA <u>L₁₀ Leg</u> at any point within the boundary of a residential activity</p> <p><u>Construction not in accordance with the provisions of NZS6803: 1999 Construction Noise</u></p> <p><u>Shall be in accordance with the</u></p>

	<u>accordance with NZS6807: 1994 Noise Management and Land Use Planning for Helicopter Landing Areas)</u>	<u>provisions of NZS6807: 1994 Noise Management and Land Use Planning for Helicopter Landing Areas</u>	<u>provisions of NZS6807: 1994 Noise Management and Land Use Planning for Helicopter Landing Areas</u>
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5.5.4 Explanation

- (k) **Noise** standards are set to prevent cumulative increases in background noise levels and to ensure the protection of community health and amenity. Excessive noise levels can have a detrimental impact on environmental quality. Activities which are likely to generate higher noise levels will be treated as non-complying and will require an application. Road traffic noise is excluded from the noise standards. Transit New Zealand has developed draft standards for road traffic noise which may be applied to State Highway improvements.

All measurements are to be taken and assessed in accordance with the NZ Standards 6801: ~~1994~~ **2008** "Measurement of Sound" and 6802: ~~1994~~ **2008** "Assessment of Environmental Sound". The noise shall be measured with a sound level meter complying with the international standard IE 651 (1979): Sound Level Meter, Type 2.

5.6 RURAL POLICY UNIT

5.6.3 Standards for Permitted, Controlled and Discretionary Activities

(See Appendix E for Assessment of Discretionary Activities)

Table 5.7: Standards for Permitted, Controlled and Discretionary Activities

	Rural Zone	
	Permitted and Controlled Activities	Discretionary Activities
<p>(d) Noise (all activities except forestry, and agricultural activities, <u>excluding noise generated within the same site, any warning device used by emergency services and noise controlled elsewhere in this Plan.</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 0700 - 2100 hrs Mon - Fri ▪ 0700 - 1800 hrs Saturday ▪ all other times including public holidays 	<p>55dBA L_{10} <u>Leq</u> at any point within the notional boundary of a residential activity</p> <p>45dBA L_{10} <u>Leq</u> at any point within the notional boundary of a residential activity</p>	<p>55dBA L_{10} <u>Leq</u> at any point within the notional boundary of a residential activity</p> <p>45dBA L_{10} <u>Leq</u> at any point within the notional boundary of a residential activity</p>
<p><u>Construction noise</u> (<u>measured in accordance with NZS6803: 1999 Construction Noise</u>)</p>	<p><u>Shall be in accordance with the provisions of NZS6803: 1999 Construction Noise</u></p>	<p><u>Construction not in accordance with the provisions of NZS6803: 1999 Construction Noise</u></p>
<p><u>Helicopter Landing Areas</u> (<u>measured and assessed in accordance with NZS6807:</u></p>	<p><u>Shall be in accordance with the provisions of</u></p>	<p><u>Shall be in accordance with the</u></p>

<p align="center"><u>1994 Noise Management and Land Use Planning for Helicopter Landing Areas)</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>NZS6807: 1994 Noise Management and Land Use Planning for Helicopter Landing Areas</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>provisions of NZS6807: 1994 Noise Management and Land Use Planning for Helicopter Landing Areas</u></p>
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5.6.4 Explanation

- (d) **Noise** standards are set to ensure the protection of community health and amenity. Excessive noise levels can have a detrimental impact on environmental quality. Road traffic noise is excluded from the noise standards. Transit New Zealand has developed draft standards for road traffic noise which may be applied to State Highway improvements.

All measurements are to be taken and assessed in accordance with the NZ Standards 6801: ~~1991~~ **2008** "Measurement of Sound" and 6802: ~~1991~~ **2008** "Assessment of Environmental Sound". The noise shall be measured with a sound level meter complying with the international standard IEC 651 (1979): Sound Level Meter, Type 2.

Okarito floor height provisions.

Introduction

Okarito has periodically been subject to inundation through the blocking of the lagoon and large rain events. Significant recent events have occurred in 1992, 1995 and 2010. In response to this hazard, Council building inspectors have been informally requiring all habitable parts of buildings to be located above specific levels. This plan change seeks to express these levels in terms of a Mean Ground Level, for ease of application, and to clearly inform plan users of this requirement.

The purpose of this plan change is

To provide a minimum floor level for habitable buildings in Okarito to provide for the mitigation of intermittent inundation risk

Explanation

This plan change proceeds as part of a wider review of the District Plan that is being undertaken by Westland District Council. The Council has identified a number of specific amendments that are appropriate to alter at this stage, whilst progressing with a wider in depth review of the District Plan. It may be that further review of the Coastal Policy Unit of Okarito leads to further plan changes relating to natural hazards, and the Okarito settlement.

Okarito's location adjacent to the Okarito Lagoon and the Tasman Sea leave it susceptible to natural processes. On a number of occasions, the mouth of the lagoon has blocked and, especially when this occurs at the same time as a rain event, the settlement of Okarito can become subject to flooding.

In order to provide for the mitigation of this hazard, Westland District Council has applied for and holds resource consent to open the mouth of the lagoon once a set number of conditions have been met. There is also provision for emergency works to be undertaken under the Resource Management Act. However it is not prudent to solely rely on these measures. Floor levels have

consequently been required to be raised in Okarito to be above the maximum levels of the 1992 floods.

The level of the minimum floor level has been established as a result of calculations undertaken by Council's Engineer in 1993 which produced maps of the maximum extent of flooding. Terrior bolts were installed at the top step of the Okarito monument, and on steps of private dwellings and specific clearances required above these bolts to ensure a 300mm freeboard. As development occurred in Okarito some of these bolts have been lost as steps or decks have been replaced or removed. It is considered necessary to express these levels as a minimum ground level to allow for universal application in the future.

Similarly, the use of the minimum floor level as relied on the agreement of those applying for building consents, although if the levels were not complied with, a certificate under section 73 of the Building Act has been issued. It is considered appropriate to include the minimum level as a rule in the plan to formalise the process of building within Okarito, to establish clear expectations of property owners within Okarito, and to create a process for those who do not wish to build above the established minimum floor levels.

It is considered that providing an additional rule in the plan is an appropriate method of achieving the Objectives and Policies of the Westland District Plan which require the avoidance of hazard, whilst continuing to provide for development within Okarito.

Proposed amendments to the Westland District Plan.

5.5.2 Zones

5.5.2.1 Coastal Settlement Zone

A. Permitted Activities

•Any residential or recreational activity which complies with the standards for permitted activities (see Table 5.6) and complies with the general rules in 6.2 and 6.3.

B. Discretionary Activities

•Any residential, recreational, commercial industrial or agricultural activity which complies with the standards for discretionary activities (see Table 5.6).

5.5.3 Standards for Permitted and Discretionary Activities

(See Appendix D for Assessment of Discretionary Activities)

Table 5.6: Standards for Permitted and Discretionary Activities

		Coastal Settlement Zone	
		Permitted Activities	Discretionary Activities
(l)	External Storage - non-residential items	Not visible from any adjacent residential site or public place	Not visible from any adjacent residential site or public place
(m)	<u>Okarito Minimum Floor Level</u> <u>All buildings for residential use and commercial accommodation (excluding ancillary storage and garaging)</u>	<u>Minimum floor level of 2.82 AMSL</u>	<u>Minimum floor levels below 2.82 AMSL</u>

5.5.4 Explanation

(m) Minimum floor levels have been set in Okarito to provide for the mitigation of potential damage to property from intermittent inundation caused by the blocking of the Okarito lagoon

APPENDIX E: ASSESSMENT OF DISCRETIONARY ACTIVITIES - GUIDELINES

Standards

Minimum Floor Level in Okarito

Minimum Floor Levels within the Coastal Settlement Zone of Okarito that are set below that permitted will be considered in regards to information provided from a suitably qualified professional relating to mitigation of inundation risk, and the proposed use of the building or part of the building that will be set below the minimum floor level.

Memo



DATE: 10 May 2011
TO: Members of the Strategy Committee
FROM: Rebecca Strang, District Planner

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS & NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

Two National Policy Statements have recently either been announced, or come into effect. Attached is the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management that has been released and will come into effect on the 1 July 2011. The National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation came into effect on the 13th May. Westland District Council is required to “have regard to” the provisions of any National Policy Statement (NPS) when making decisions.

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011 directs the Regional Councils to amend their regional plans and includes interim provisions to be inserted without the Schedule 1 process while further changes are being made following the plan change process. The NPS seeks to amend regional plans to establish freshwater quality limits for significant water bodies and minimum environmental flows for all water bodies. Westland will be able to provide comment through the notification process.

The National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation must be considered by any decision maker after the 13th May, regardless of the lodgement date of the consent. The NPS directs Council to recognise and provide for the benefits of renewable electricity generation activities, the need for on-going maintenance, acknowledge the practical constraints of the location of schemes and to consider the use of off-setting or compensation for residual environmental effects. Reverse sensitivity effects on schemes need to be avoided. Councils have also been directed to include plan provisions relating to solar, biomass, tidal, wave and ocean current, hydro-electric, wind and geothermal resources as applicable including the use of small and community scale schemes. Westland has 2 years to give effect to the provisions of the NPS, or 1 year from the date of the operative date of the RPS if that is to be altered.

Other NPSs and National Environmental Standards currently in force are:

- NES for Electricity Transmission Activities Regulations 2009. (in force January 2010).
- NPS for Electricity Generation (In force, must be given effect to by end of April 2012).

- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (in force December 2010)
- NES for Air Quality (2004)
- NES for Sources of Human Drinking Water (2008)
- NES for Telecommunications Facilities (2008)

The Utility sections of the Westland District Plan are currently being reviewed and it is anticipated that the majority of the changes required by the relevant NPS and NES will be incorporated, except for where the NPS or NES provides for the avoidance of significant native vegetation or Natural Areas, areas of rural amenity or landscape areas as any provisions relating to these matters will come out of later stages of the review. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement is a significant document and will require further detailed work. It is anticipated much of this work will require discussion with the West Coast Regional Council to coordinate with the review of the Regional Policy Statement.

Recommendation: That this report be received.

Rebecca Strang
District Planner

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

Freshwater Management 2011

Issued by notice in the Gazette on 12 May 2011

newzealand.govt.nz

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Preamble

Fresh water is essential to New Zealand's economic, environmental, cultural and social well-being. Fresh water gives our primary production, tourism, and energy generation sectors their competitive advantage in the global economy. Fresh water is highly valued for its recreational aspects and it underpins important parts of New Zealand's biodiversity and natural heritage. Fresh water has deep cultural meaning to all New Zealanders. Many of New Zealand's lakes, rivers and wetlands are iconic and well known globally for their natural beauty and intrinsic values.

The Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) is the underlying foundation of the Crown-iwi/hapū relationship with regard to freshwater resources. Addressing tāngata whenua values and interests across all of the well-beings, and including the involvement of iwi and hapū in the overall management of fresh water, are key to meeting obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi.

All New Zealanders have a common interest in ensuring the country's freshwater lakes, rivers, aquifers and wetlands are managed wisely.

New Zealand faces challenges in managing our fresh water to provide for all of the values that are important to New Zealanders. The quality, health, availability and economic value of our fresh water are under threat. These challenges are likely to increase over time due to the impacts of climate change.

To respond effectively to these challenges and issues we need to have a good understanding of our freshwater resources, the threats to them and provide a management framework that enables water to contribute both to New Zealand's economic growth and environmental integrity and provides for the values that are important to New Zealanders.

This national policy statement sets out objectives and policies that direct local government to manage water in an integrated and sustainable way, while providing for economic growth within set water quantity and quality limits. The national policy statement is a first step to improve freshwater management at a national level.

Setting enforceable quality and quantity limits is a key purpose of this national policy statement. This is a fundamental step to achieving environmental outcomes and creating the necessary incentives to use fresh water efficiently, while providing certainty for investment. Water quality and quantity limits must reflect local and national values. The process for setting limits should be informed by the best available information and scientific and socio-economic knowledge.

Once limits are set, freshwater resources need to be allocated to users, while providing the ability to transfer entitlements between users so that we maximise the value we get from water. Where water resources are over-allocated (in terms of quality and quantity) to the point that national and local values are not met, we also need to ensure that over-allocation is reduced over agreed timeframes.

Given the vital importance of freshwater resources to New Zealand and New Zealanders, and in order to achieve the purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act), the Crown recognises there is a particular need for clear central government policy to set a national direction, though the management of the resource needs to reflect the catchment-level variation between water bodies and

different demands on the resource across regions. This includes managing land use and development activities that affect water so that growth is achieved with a lower environmental footprint.

The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 addresses issues with water quality in the coastal environment. The management of coastal water and fresh water requires an integrated and consistent approach.

National values of fresh water

Water is valued for the following uses:

- domestic drinking and washing water
- animal drinking water
- community water supply
- fire fighting
- electricity generation
- commercial and industrial processes
- irrigation
- recreational activities (including waka ama)
- food production and harvesting eg, fish farms and mahinga kai
- transport and access (including tauranga waka)
- cleaning, dilution and disposal of waste.

There are also values that relate to recognising and respecting fresh water's intrinsic values for: safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of water and associated ecosystems; and sustaining its potential to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations. Examples of these values include:

- the interdependency of the elements of the freshwater cycle
- the natural form, character, functioning and natural processes of water bodies and margins, including natural flows, velocities, levels, variability and connections
- the natural conditions of fresh water, free from biological or chemical alterations resulting from human activity, so that it is fit for all aspects of its intrinsic values
- healthy ecosystem processes functioning naturally
- healthy ecosystems supporting the diversity of indigenous species in sustainable populations
- cultural and traditional relationships of Māori with fresh water
- historic heritage associations with fresh water
- providing a sense of place for people and communities.

All the values in both lists are important national values of fresh water.

Review

The Minister for the Environment intends to seek an independent review of the implementation and effectiveness of this national policy statement in achieving all its objectives and policies and in achieving the purpose of the Act, no later than five years after it comes into force. The Minister shall then consider the need to review, change or revoke this national policy statement. Collection of monitoring data to inform this review will begin at least two years prior to the review.

This preamble may assist the interpretation of the national policy statement.

Title

This national policy statement is the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2011.

Commencement

This national policy statement will take effect on 1 July 2011.

Interpretation

In this national policy statement:

Efficient allocation includes economic, technical and dynamic efficiency.

Environmental flows and/or levels are a type of limit which describes the amount of water in a body of fresh water (except ponds and naturally ephemeral water bodies) which is required to meet freshwater objectives. Environmental flows for rivers and streams must include an allocation limit and a minimum flow (or other flow/s). Environmental levels for other bodies of fresh water must include an allocation limit and a minimum water level (or other level/s).

Freshwater objective describes the intended environmental outcome(s).

Limit is the maximum amount of resource use available, which allows a freshwater objective to be met.

Over-allocation is the situation where the resource:

- a) has been allocated to users beyond a limit or
- b) is being used to a point where a freshwater objective is no longer being met.

This applies to both water quantity and quality.

Outstanding freshwater bodies are those water bodies with outstanding values, including ecological, landscape, recreational and spiritual values.

Target is a limit which must be met at a defined time in the future. This meaning only applies in the context of over-allocation.

Terms given meaning in the Act have the meanings so given.

A. Water quality

Objective A1

To safeguard the life-supporting capacity, ecosystem processes and indigenous species including their associated ecosystems of fresh water, in sustainably managing the use and development of land, and of discharges of contaminants.

Objective A2

The overall quality of fresh water within a region is maintained or improved while:

- a) protecting the quality of outstanding freshwater bodies
- b) protecting the significant values of wetlands and
- c) improving the quality of fresh water in water bodies that have been degraded by human activities to the point of being over-allocated.

Policy A1

By every regional council making or changing regional plans to the extent needed to ensure the plans:

- a) establish freshwater objectives and set freshwater quality limits for all bodies of fresh water in their regions to give effect to the objectives in this national policy statement, having regard to at least the following:
 - i) the reasonably foreseeable impacts of climate change
 - ii) the connection between water bodies
- b) establish methods (including rules) to avoid over-allocation.

Policy A2

Where water bodies do not meet the freshwater objectives made pursuant to Policy A1, every regional council is to specify targets and implement methods (either or both regulatory and non-regulatory) to assist the improvement of water quality in the water bodies, to meet those targets, and within a defined timeframe.

Policy A3

By regional councils:

- a) imposing conditions on discharge permits to ensure the limits and targets specified pursuant to Policy A1 and Policy A2 can be met and
- b) where permissible, making rules requiring the adoption of the best practicable option to prevent or minimise any actual or likely adverse effect on the environment of any discharge of a contaminant into fresh water, or onto or into land in circumstances that may result in that contaminant (or, as a result of any natural process from the discharge of that contaminant, any other contaminant) entering fresh water.

Policy A4 and direction (under section 55) to regional councils

By every regional council amending regional plans (without using the process in Schedule 1) to the extent needed to ensure the plans include the following policy to apply until any changes under Schedule 1 to give effect to Policy A1 and Policy A2 (freshwater quality limits and targets) have become operative:

"1. When considering any application for a discharge the consent authority must have regard to the following matters:

- a) the extent to which the discharge would avoid contamination that will have an adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water including on any ecosystem associated with fresh water and*
- b) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any more than minor adverse effect on fresh water, and on any ecosystem associated with fresh water, resulting from the discharge would be avoided.*

2. This policy applies to the following discharges (including a diffuse discharge by any person or animal):

- a) a new discharge or*
- b) a change or increase in any discharge –
of any contaminant into fresh water, or onto or into land in circumstances that may result in that contaminant (or, as a result of any natural process from the discharge of that contaminant, any other contaminant) entering fresh water.*

3. This policy does not apply to any application for consent first lodged before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management takes effect on 1 July 2011."

B. Water quantity

Objective B1

To safeguard the life-supporting capacity, ecosystem processes and indigenous species including their associated ecosystems of fresh water, in sustainably managing the taking, using, damming, or diverting of fresh water.

Objective B2

To avoid any further over-allocation of fresh water and phase out existing over-allocation.

Objective B3

To improve and maximise the efficient allocation and efficient use of water.

Objective B4

To protect significant values of wetlands.

Policy B1

By every regional council making or changing regional plans to the extent needed to ensure the plans establish freshwater objectives and set environmental flows and/or levels for all bodies of fresh water in its region (except ponds and naturally ephemeral water bodies) to give effect to the objectives in this national policy statement, having regard to at least the following:

- a) the reasonably foreseeable impacts of climate change
- b) the connection between water bodies.

Policy B2

By every regional council making or changing regional plans to the extent needed to provide for the efficient allocation of fresh water to activities, within the limits set to give effect to Policy B1.

Policy B3

By every regional council making or changing regional plans to the extent needed to ensure the plans state criteria by which applications for approval of transfers of water take permits are to be decided, including to improve and maximise the efficient allocation of water.

Policy B4

By every regional council identifying methods in regional plans to encourage the efficient use of water.

Policy B5

By every regional council ensuring that no decision will likely result in future over-allocation – including managing fresh water so that the aggregate of all amounts of fresh water in a water body that are authorised to be taken, used, dammed or diverted – does not over-allocate the water in the water body.

Policy B6

By every regional council setting a defined timeframe and methods in regional plans by which over-allocation must be phased out, including by reviewing water permits and consents to help ensure the total amount of water allocated in the water body is reduced to the level set to give effect to Policy B1.

Policy B7 and direction (under section 55) to regional councils

By every regional council amending regional plans (without using the process in Schedule 1) to the extent needed to ensure the plans include the following policy to apply until any changes under Schedule 1 to give effect to Policy B1 (allocation limits), Policy B2 (allocation), and Policy B6 (over-allocation) have become operative:

"1. When considering any application the consent authority must have regard to the following matters:

- a) the extent to which the change would adversely affect safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of fresh water and of any associated ecosystem and*
- b) the extent to which it is feasible and dependable that any adverse effect on the life-supporting capacity of fresh water and of any associated ecosystem resulting from the change would be avoided.*

2. This policy applies to:

- a) any new activity and*
- b) any change in the character, intensity or scale of any established activity – that involves any taking, using, damming or diverting of fresh water or draining of any wetland which is likely to result in any more than minor adverse change in the natural variability of flows or level of any fresh water, compared to that which immediately preceded the commencement of the new activity or the change in the established activity (or in the case of a change in an intermittent or seasonal activity, compared to that on the last occasion on which the activity was carried out).*

3. This policy does not apply to any application for consent first lodged before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management takes effect on 1 July 2011."

C. Integrated management

Objective C1

To improve integrated management of fresh water and the use and development of land in whole catchments, including the interactions between fresh water, land, associated ecosystems and the coastal environment.

Policy C1

By every regional council managing fresh water and land use and development in catchments in an integrated and sustainable way, so as to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects, including cumulative effects.

Policy C2

By every regional council making or changing regional policy statements to the extent needed to provide for the integrated management of the effects of the use and development of land on fresh water, including encouraging the co-ordination and sequencing of regional and/or urban growth, land use and development and the provision of infrastructure.

D. Tāngata whenua roles and interests

Objective D1

To provide for the involvement of iwi and hapū, and to ensure that tāngata whenua values and interests are identified and reflected in the management of fresh water including associated ecosystems, and decision-making regarding freshwater planning, including on how all other objectives of this national policy statement are given effect to.

Policy D1

Local authorities shall take reasonable steps to:

- a) involve iwi and hapū in the management of fresh water and freshwater ecosystems in the region
- b) work with iwi and hapū to identify tāngata whenua values and interests in fresh water and freshwater ecosystems in the region and
- c) reflect tāngata whenua values and interests in the management of, and decision-making regarding, fresh water and freshwater ecosystems in the region.

E. Progressive implementation programme

Policy E1

- a) This policy applies to the implementation by a regional council of a policy of this national policy statement.
- b) Every regional council is to implement the policy as promptly as is reasonable in the circumstances, and so it is fully completed by no later than 31 December 2030.
- c) Where a regional council is satisfied that it is impracticable for it to complete implementation of a policy fully by 31 December 2014, the council may implement it by a programme of defined time-limited stages by which it is to be fully implemented by 31 December 2030.
- d) Any programme of time-limited stages is to be formally adopted by the council within 18 months of the date of gazetting of this national policy statement, and publicly notified.
- e) Where a regional council has adopted a programme of staged implementation, it is to publicly report, in every year, on the extent to which the programme has been implemented.

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

for Renewable
Electricity Generation 2011

Issued by notice in the Gazette on 14 April 2011

newzealand.govt.nz

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Preamble

This national policy statement sets out an objective and policies to enable the sustainable management of renewable electricity generation under the Resource Management Act 1991 ('the Act').

New Zealand's energy demand has been growing steadily and is forecast to continue to grow. New Zealand must confront two major energy challenges as it meets growing energy demand. The first is to respond to the risks of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions caused by the production and use of energy. The second is to deliver clean, secure, affordable energy while treating the environment responsibly.

The contribution of renewable electricity generation, regardless of scale, towards addressing the effects of climate change plays a vital role in the wellbeing of New Zealand, its people and the environment. In considering the risks and opportunities associated with various electricity futures, central government has reaffirmed the strategic target that 90 per cent of electricity generated in New Zealand should be derived from renewable energy sources by 2025 (based on delivered electricity in an average hydrological year) providing this does not affect security of supply.

Development that increases renewable electricity generation capacity can have environmental effects that span local, regional and national scales, often with adverse effects manifesting locally and positive effects manifesting nationally.

This national policy statement does not apply to the allocation and prioritisation of freshwater as these are matters for regional councils to address in a catchment or regional context and may be subject to the development of national guidance in the future.

In some instances the benefits of renewable electricity generation can compete with matters of national importance as set out in section 6 of the Act, and with matters to which decision-makers are required to have particular regard under section 7 of the Act. In particular, the natural resources from which electricity is generated can coincide with areas of significant natural character, significant amenity values, historic heritage, outstanding natural features and landscapes, significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna. There can also be potential conflicts with the relationship of Maori with their taonga and the role of kaitiaki. The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 also addresses these issues in the coastal environment. Increased national consistency in addressing the competing values associated with the development of New Zealand's renewable energy resources will provide greater certainty to decision-makers, applicants, and the wider community.

Title

This national policy statement is the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation 2011.

Commencement

This national policy statement will take effect 28 days after the date of its issue by notice in the New Zealand Gazette.

Interpretation

In this national policy statement, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Resource Management Act 1991.

Decision-makers means all persons exercising functions and powers under the Act.

Distribution network means a distributor's lines and associated equipment used for the conveyance of electricity on lines other than lines that are part of the national grid.

Distributor means a business engaged in distribution of electricity.

National grid means the lines and associated equipment used or owned by Transpower to convey electricity.

Renewable electricity generation means generation of electricity from solar, wind, hydro-electricity, geothermal, biomass, tidal, wave, or ocean current energy sources.

Renewable electricity generation activities means the construction, operation and maintenance of structures associated with renewable electricity generation. This includes small and community-scale distributed renewable generation activities and the system of electricity conveyance required to convey electricity to the distribution network and/or the national grid and electricity storage technologies associated with renewable electricity.

Small and community-scale distributed electricity generation means renewable electricity generation for the purpose of using electricity on a particular site, or supplying an immediate community, or connecting into the distribution network.

Terms given meaning in the Act have the meanings so given.

Matters of national significance

The matters of national significance to which this national policy statement applies are:

- a) the need to develop, operate, maintain and upgrade renewable electricity generation activities throughout New Zealand; and
- b) the benefits of renewable electricity generation.

Objective

To recognise the national significance of renewable electricity generation activities by providing for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities, such that the proportion of New Zealand's electricity generated from renewable energy sources increases to a level that meets or exceeds the New Zealand Government's national target for renewable electricity generation.

A. Recognising the benefits of renewable electricity generation activities

POLICY A

Decision-makers shall recognise and provide for the national significance of renewable electricity generation activities, including the national, regional and local benefits relevant to renewable electricity generation activities. These benefits include, but are not limited to:

- a) maintaining or increasing electricity generation capacity while avoiding, reducing or displacing greenhouse gas emissions;
- b) maintaining or increasing security of electricity supply at local, regional and national levels by diversifying the type and/or location of electricity generation;
- c) using renewable natural resources rather than finite resources;
- d) the reversibility of the adverse effects on the environment of some renewable electricity generation technologies;
- e) avoiding reliance on imported fuels for the purposes of generating electricity.

B. Acknowledging the practical implications of achieving New Zealand's target for electricity generation from renewable resources

POLICY B

Decision-makers shall have particular regard to the following matters:

- a) maintenance of the generation output of existing renewable electricity generation activities can require protection of the assets, operational capacity and continued availability of the renewable energy resource; and
- b) even minor reductions in the generation output of existing renewable electricity generation activities can cumulatively have significant adverse effects on national, regional and local renewable electricity generation output; and
- c) meeting or exceeding the New Zealand Government's national target for the generation of electricity from renewable resources will require the significant development of renewable electricity generation activities.

C. Acknowledging the practical constraints associated with the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities

POLICY C1

Decision-makers shall have particular regard to the following matters:

- a) the need to locate the renewable electricity generation activity where the renewable energy resource is available;
- b) logistical or technical practicalities associated with developing, upgrading, operating or maintaining the renewable electricity generation activity;
- c) the location of existing structures and infrastructure including, but not limited to, roads, navigation and telecommunication structures and facilities, the distribution network and the national grid in relation to the renewable electricity generation activity, and the need to connect renewable electricity generation activity to the national grid;

- d) designing measures which allow operational requirements to complement and provide for mitigation opportunities; and
- e) adaptive management measures.

POLICY C2

When considering any residual environmental effects of renewable electricity generation activities that cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated, decision-makers shall have regard to offsetting measures or environmental compensation including measures or compensation which benefit the local environment and community affected.

D. Managing reverse sensitivity effects on renewable electricity generation activities

POLICY D

Decision-makers shall, to the extent reasonably possible, manage activities to avoid reverse sensitivity effects on consented and on existing renewable electricity generation activities.

E. Incorporating provisions for renewable electricity generation activities into regional policy statements and regional and district plans

E1 Solar, biomass, tidal, wave and ocean current resources

POLICY E1

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities using solar, biomass, tidal, wave and ocean current energy resources to the extent applicable to the region or district.

E2 Hydro-electricity resources

POLICY E2

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of new and existing hydro-electricity generation activities to the extent applicable to the region or district.

E3 Wind resources

POLICY E3

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of new and existing wind energy generation activities to the extent applicable to the region or district.

E4 Geothermal resources

POLICY E4

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of new and existing electricity generation activities using geothermal resources to the extent applicable to the region or district.

F. Incorporating provisions for small and community-scale renewable electricity generation activities into regional policy statements and regional and district plans

POLICY F

As part of giving effect to Policies E1 to E4, regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of small and community-scale distributed renewable electricity generation from any renewable energy source to the extent applicable to the region or district.

G. Enabling identification of renewable electricity generation possibilities

POLICY G

Regional policy statements and regional and district plans shall include objectives, policies, and methods (including rules within plans) to provide for activities associated with the investigation, identification and assessment of potential sites and energy sources for renewable electricity generation by existing and prospective generators.

H. Time within which implementation is required

POLICY H1

Unless already provided for within the relevant regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement, regional councils shall give effect to Policies A, B, C, D, E, F and G by notifying using Schedule 1 of the Act, a change or variation (whichever applies) within 24 months of the date on which this national policy statement takes effect.

POLICY H2

Unless already provided for within the relevant regional or district plans or proposed plans, plan changes or variations, local authorities shall give effect to Policies A, B, C, D, E, F and G by notifying using Schedule 1 of the Act, a change or variation (whichever applies) within the following timeframes:

- a) where the relevant regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement already provides for the Policies, 24 months of the date on which this national policy statement takes effect; or
- b) where a change or variation to the regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement is required by Policy H1, 12 months of the date on which the change or variation becomes operative.

Monitoring and reviewing the implementation and effectiveness of the national policy statement

To monitor and review the implementation and effectiveness of this national policy statement in achieving the purpose of the Act, the Minister for the Environment should:

- in collaboration with local authorities and relevant government agencies collect data for, and, as far as practicable, incorporate district and regional monitoring information into a nationally consistent monitoring and reporting programme, including monitoring the performance of local authorities against the timeframes for giving effect to this national policy statement;
- utilise other information gathered or monitored that assists in measuring progress towards the Government's national target for the generation of electricity from renewable sources;
- within five years of its taking effect, and thereafter as considered necessary, assess the effect of this national policy statement on relevant regional policy statements and regional or district plans, resource consents and other decision-making; and
- publish a report and conclusions on matters above.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the national policy statement but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This national policy statement takes effect 28 days after the date of its issue by notice in the *New Zealand Gazette*. It recognises renewable electricity generation activities and the benefits of renewable electricity generation as matters of national significance under the Resource Management Act 1991.

This national policy statement is to be applied by all persons exercising powers and functions under the Act. The objective and policies are intended to guide applicants and decision-makers on applications for resource consent, in making decisions on the notification and determination of resource consent applications, in considering a requirement for a designation or a heritage order, in considering an application for a water conservation order and when exercising other powers as required by the Act. Regional policy statements, regional plans and district plans must give effect to this national policy statement.

This national policy statement requires regional councils, unless they have already provided for renewable electricity generation activities, to give effect to its provisions by notifying changes to existing or proposed regional policy statements within 24 months of the date on which it takes effect. In the case of district plans, proposed plans or variations, local authorities are required to give effect to its provisions by notifying changes within the following timeframes: 24 months of the date on which this national policy statement takes effect where the regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement already provides for the policies; or, where a change or variation to the regional policy statement or proposed regional policy statement is required, within 12 months of the date on which the change or variation becomes operative.



Memo

DATE: 11 May 2011
TO: Strategy Committee Members
FROM: Manager Planning and Regulatory

FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW 2011

With the confirmation of the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2011 it may be necessary to review the existing Freedom Camping Policy (adopted 2008).

A copy of the existing Policy is attached for consideration.

Richard Simpson
Manager: Planning and Regulatory



Freedom Camping Policy

Westland District Council's policy is designed to encourage travellers and campers to use camping grounds and other accommodation facilities as much as possible.

This policy recognises that some visitors to our District are choosing overnight camping as their preferred accommodation.

It also recognises the economic and social benefit campers bring to our District.

The intent of this policy is to encourage camping travelers while eliminating the detrimental environmental effects of discarded rubbish and human waste.

We ask you to comply with the following rules:

1. Overnight Camping may occur on any Council controlled public land, except as listed in "Prohibited Areas" below, and for a maximum of two nights in any calendar month at any single location.
2. Overnight Camping on any Council land may only be carried out in mobile vehicles fitted with a minimum three day capacity toilet and greywater storage facility and holding a containment certificate.
3. Toilet and greywater must be disposed of in a Council approved dump point.
4. Vehicles provided by companies such as (but not limited to) Wicked Campervans, Spaceships Campervan Rentals, Maui Campervan Rentals, Kiwi Kombi Campervan Rentals, Jucy Campervan Rentals, Britz Campervans, Escape Campervan Rentals Limited, Backpacker Campervan Rentals, without toilets and greywater storage facilities are prohibited from camping on any Council land, or on lay-bys on State Highways 6 and 73 within Westland District.
5. All refuse must be disposed of in an approved refuse collection bag and placed in appropriate refuse disposal sites, or put out for collection on an appropriate day where a collection service is provided. Advice about refuse collection sites and collection days are available on Council website www.westland.govt.nz, the Council Office and Westland I-Site and Information. Approved bags may be purchased from Council offices and local supermarkets.
6. All Overnight Camping sites must be left in a clean and tidy state.
7. All Overnight Campers are asked to comply with any request to move on, by any Officer of the Council, or any person authorised by Council.

8. Respect our environment – leave the site clear of all rubbish, waste and damage.
 - *Understand that dumping of waste and litter is an offence and will result in instant fines or prosecution.*
9. Act responsibly, and respect the access and enjoyment rights of other public space users.
10. Have immediate access to, or on-board, toilet, wastewater collection and rubbish disposal facilities.
11. Use designated public spaces, camping areas (eg Department of Conservation sites) or commercial premises as available.
 - *Seek the local i-Site, local council web site or other camping guides if unsure of freedom camping sites in the area.*
 - *Appreciate that some environmentally or culturally sensitive, and built-up, areas will not permit any form of freedom camping.*
12. Understand that freedom camping is a temporary activity, generally considered to be two days unless otherwise informed.

N.B. The deposit of litter, including any effluent in other than an approved location, will result in an instant fine of \$400.00 or prosecution.

Prohibited Areas

- All areas where Westland District Council "No Camping or Overnight Parking" signs are displayed
- Hans Bay Foreshore and Sunny Bight at Lake Kaniere
- Sunset Point, Hokitika River Mouth
- Wadeson Island, Hokitika
- On any Council reserve (apart from road reserve) in any town unless provided for in a management plan
- Any area within 5 kilometres of a registered camping ground, or a camping area operated by the Department of Conservation.

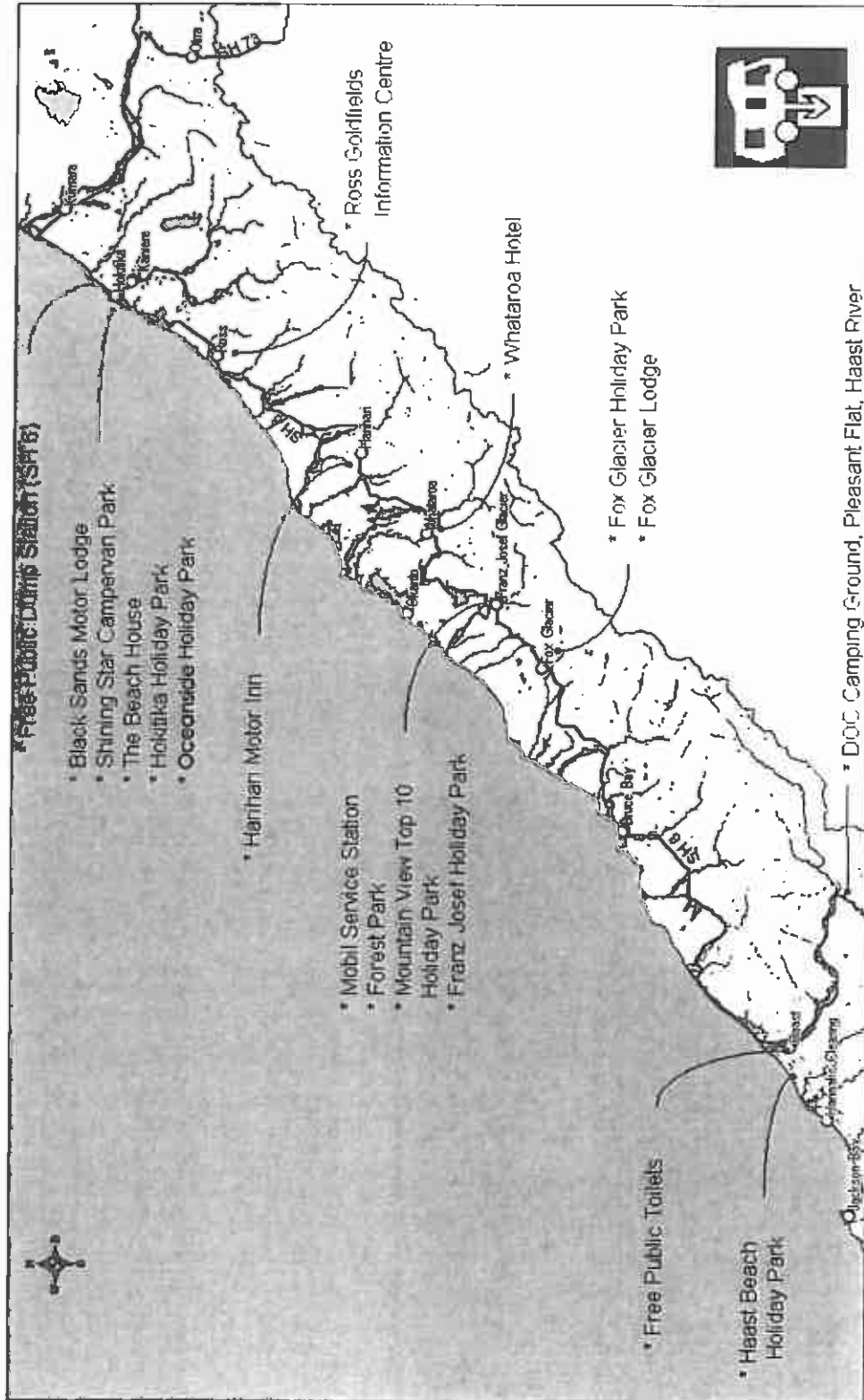
Dump Point Locations

Refer to attached map at **Appendix 1** for District wide dump point locations for toilet and greywater disposal.

Camping Ground Locations

Refer to **Appendix 2** for a list of camping grounds within Westland District.

Dump Wide Locations for Toilet and Greywater Disposal



Effluent Dump Stations In Westland District

SCALE
1:1,000,000

PLANS PRODUCED BY WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL. CADASTRAL DATA DERIVED FROM LINZ'S DCDB (CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED)



Camping Grounds within Westland District

JACKSONS

- Jacksons Retreat Holiday Park

KAIHINU

- Beach Walk Holiday Park

HOKITIKA

- Shining Star Campervan Park
- 252 Beachside Motels and Holiday Park
- Oceanside Holiday Park
- Hokitika Holiday Park

ROSS

- Historic Empire Hotel Ross

HARIHARI

- Harihari Motor Inn

WHATAROA

- Whataroa Hotel

OKARITO

- Okarito Camping Ground

FRANZ JOSEF

- Franz Josef Mountain View Top 10 Holiday Park
- Rainforest Holiday Park
- Terrace Motels (catering for self contained vehicles only)
- Glacier Country Campervan Park (catering for self contained vehicles only)

FOX GLACIER

- Fox Glacier Holiday Park

HAAST

- Haast Lodge and Motorpark
- Haast Beach Holiday Park

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION CAMPING GROUNDS

- Goldsborough, Shamrock Creek Amenity Area
- Hans Bay, Lake Kaniere Scenic Reserve
- Lake Mahinapua, Lake Mahinapua Scenic Reserve
- Lake Ianthe, Lake Ianthe Scenic Reserve
- Ottos/MacDonalds, Westland National Park
- Gillespies Beach, Conservation Area
- Lake Paringa, Conservation Area.

Policy Adopted by Council 17 April 2008