



ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION ANNUAL COMPLIANCE SUMMARY 2005-06

Compliance summary

This summary is based on resource consent compliance monitoring undertaken by Greater Wellington from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006. It also assesses the consent holder's compliance with conditions of their resource consents. The frequency and types of monitoring depends on the scale and nature of the effects of the consented activity. For activities with the potential for significant adverse effects, such as wastewater discharges or landfills, site specific compliance programmes are undertaken.

This year around three-quarters of all 1211 consents assessed were fully complying with all their consent conditions. Only eleven percent were rated as non-complying. These results indicate no change from the 2004-05 financial year.

Compliance ratings

On 30 June each year all consents inspected are given one of the following compliance ratings:

Fully complying: full compliance with all consent conditions at all times.

Mainly complying: full compliance with conditions which relate to environmental effects at all times. Minor non-compliance with administrative type conditions during the year. All administrative conditions met by the end of the year without prompting by Greater Wellington.

Partially complying: full compliance with conditions which relate to environmental effects at all times. Minor non-compliance with administrative type conditions during the year. All administrative conditions are met by the end of the year after prompting by Greater Wellington.

Non-complying: non-compliance with conditions which relate to environmental effects (including any confirmed complaints), and/or not all administrative type conditions met by the end of the year.

Consents assessed

| Type | Fully complying | Mainly complying | Partially complying | Non-complying |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Land use | 243 | 28 | 13 | 35 |
| Discharge | 313 | 32 | 14 | 53 |
| Water permits | 158 | 22 | 13 | 20 |
| Coastal | 204 | 28 | 13 | 22 |
| Total | 918 | 110 | 53 | 130 |
| % | 76% | 9% | 4% | 11% |

Main issues

Land use consents – include structures and works in river beds and the drilling of bores. The main reasons for non-complying ratings included the failure to provide 48 hours notice prior to undertaking works in streams, and works not being carried out in accordance with consent conditions.

Agricultural, wastewater and misc. discharges – compliance inspections for dairy shed effluent and consented water takes on farms were integrated this year and this worked well. There appears to be increasing awareness by farmers of the impact of their actions on the environment. There are still, however, a significant number of non-compliance issues relating to the ponding of effluent on land, poor maintenance of irrigation equipment and the lack of prioritisation of repairs. Most non-compliance was addressed informally with the exception of one case where enforcement action was taken.



An example of ponding

Forestry and roading – effects of forestry logging on water quality in the region has become of a concern. Greater Wellington is currently looking at improving erosion and sediment control on forestry sites. There continues to be a large number of large roading projects in progress. Non-compliance with erosion and sediment control measures occurred at Ohariu Valley roading works, and a Woodridge subdivision, resulting in enforcement action.

Landfills – the most significant example of non-compliance was the discharge of a large amount of sediment to a tributary of the Hutt River from Silverstream Landfill. Other issues that occurred throughout the year – stormwater runoff, leachate entering stormwater and odour emissions – have now been largely resolved. An ongoing issue with cleanfills, and construction and demolition landfills in the region, is the continued acceptance of inappropriate material for disposal.

Discharges to air – the majority of non-complying ratings were given for discharges of offensive or objectionable odour (mainly from the processing of animal matter and food products) and for failure to notify GW for specific works or plant failures. Other non or partially complying ratings were given for the late submission of monitoring results.

Wastewater treatment plants – all treatment plants in the western region performed well. There was some non compliance relating to the provision of information. There were a number of consented overflows from the sewage network as a result of heavy rainfall. There were also some minor incidents of non compliance relating to late notification of overflow events and incomplete signage.

Public water supply and water permits – overall, the major water treatment plants fared well. Minor non-compliance issues resulted from the late submission of maintenance reports. In one instance, over extractions occurred through an electrical fault and difficulties experienced in accurately measuring flow. The cumulative adverse effect of non-complying minor water takes is an issue Greater Wellington intends to address in the 2006-07 compliance year.

Coastal activities – a small number of boatsheds at Paremata were rated as non-complying mainly because of ongoing problems with the condition of the boatshed, unlawful discharges of contaminants to the CMA and the use of boatsheds for overnight stays. Greater Wellington is currently discussing these issues with the affected consent holders, and looking into options such as considering enforcement action.

Works in major rivers – all global consent works in main rivers received fully complying ratings during the 2005-06 consent year.

Targeted investigation

Pro Active Odour Monitoring (POM) was carried out four times at the Carey's Gully Complex, (located in Happy Valley, near Wellington's south coast) over the 2005-06 compliance year. This was down on the previous year, due to weather conditions not being 'ideal'. Ideal conditions are clear evenings, with light southerly winds. In these conditions, complaints about odour have come from the residential area to the north of the complex.

With around 300 complaints per year being connected with this complex, and three odour generating activities within it, GW's POM work endeavours to provide a link between complaints and what may be happening at any of the activities onsite. This should assist GW in requiring better management of any of the sites at the complex, ultimately leading to reduced complaint numbers.

Compliance by local authority area

| Area | Fully complying | Mainly complying | Partially complying | Non-complying |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Wellington City | 170 | 15 | 10 | 25 |
| Lower Hutt | 127 | 10 | 10 | 28 |
| Upper Hutt | 70 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| Porirua | 165 | 13 | 10 | 23 |
| Kapiti | 192 | 18 | 8 | 21 |
| Masterton | 34 | 14 | 2 | 6 |
| Carterton | 33 | 11 | 3 | 3 |
| South Wairarapa | 106 | 24 | 9 | 16 |

Note: the above table does not include some suites of consents that span TA boundaries.

Regulatory action

Some of the regulatory action we have taken in 2005-06 includes:

Abatement notices

- € discharge to the Kenepuru Stream as a result of inadequate erosion and sediment control measures on a subdivision earthworks site.
- € an inadequate effluent management system on a dairy farm in Wairarapa.

Infringement notices

- € discharge of an offensive odour from a landfill in Grenada North.
- € discharge of sediment to the Karori Stream as a result of streamworks.
- € two separate incidents of discharge of an offensive and objectionable odour from a meatworks plant in Ngauranga.
- € discharge of sediment to the Karori Stream from pumping sediment-laden water from a sediment pond directly into the stream.

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