

# RESOURCE CONSENT CERTIFICATE

**Resource Consent:** AUTH135636.01.01

**File Number:** 60 25 05A

*Pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991, the Regional Council hereby grants consent to:*

Thames Coromandel District Council  
Private Bag 1001  
Thames 3540

(hereinafter referred to as the Consent Holder)

**Consent Type:** Discharge Permit

**Consent Subtype:** Water - sewage

**Activity authorised:** Discharge of treated municipal wastewater to the Wigmore Stream and associated seepage to groundwater from treatment ponds

**Location:** Pa Rd - Hahei (Hahei WWTP)

**Map reference:** NZTM 1850282 E 5918696 N

**Consent duration:** This consent will commence on the date of decision notification and expire on 15 December 2030.

**Subject to the conditions overleaf:**

## CONDITIONS

### General

- 1) The discharge of treated wastewater authorised by this resource consent shall be undertaken:
  - i) in general accordance with the application for this resource consent (as recorded on the Waikato Regional Council's electronic document management system document no. 3442348) and any documentation supporting the application, and
  - ii) as specified in the resource consent conditions below.

Where there is any disagreement between the application and the consent conditions set out below, then the consent conditions shall prevail.

- 2) The consent holder shall ensure contractors are made aware of the conditions of this resource consent and ensure compliance with those conditions.
- 3) The treatment plant and discharge to the Wigmore Stream shall be managed and operated by an appropriately trained operator.
- 4) The consent holder shall pay to the Waikato Regional Council any administrative charge fixed in accordance with section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991, or any charge prescribed in accordance with regulations made under section 360 of the Resource Management Act.

### Discharge Volume

- 5) The maximum volume of treated wastewater discharged to the Wigmore Stream shall not exceed 700 cubic metres in any 24 hour period.
- 6) The maximum discharge rate of treated wastewater to the Wigmore Stream shall not exceed 8.1 litres per second.

### Discharge Quality

- 7) The consent holder shall ensure that all waste entering, and treated in, the Hahei Wastewater Treatment Plant, goes through all stages of treatment available at the plant prior to discharge. This includes the Micro Filtration Unit.
- 8) The following limits shall apply to the discharge to the Wigmore Stream from the commencement of this resource consent:

Parameter	90 percentile, not more than one sample in each preceding 10 samples shall exceed:	Running average, over any consecutive 10 samples shall not exceed:
a) Suspended solids (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	20	10
b) Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (cBOD <sub>5</sub> ) (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	20	10
c) <i>Escherichia coli</i> (cfu/100 mL)	20	10
d) Total ammoniacal nitrogen (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	15	10
e) Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	20	15
f) Total Phosphorus (g/m <sup>3</sup> )	20	14

- 9) Notwithstanding the stated limits in condition 8, the consent holder shall make all reasonable and practical efforts to ensure that the final effluent quality is maximised within the capabilities of the treatment system in operation.

- 10) The point at which compliance with condition 8 of this consent shall be determined is from a grab sample taken at the point of discharge from the treatment plant and prior to discharge to the Wigmore Stream.

### **Metering and Monitoring**

- 11) A flow meter shall be installed to record, on a continuous basis, the quantity of effluent discharged on a daily basis. The device shall have a reliable calibration to water flow and shall be maintained to an accuracy of +/- 5%. Access to the meter shall be made available to the staff and agents of the Waikato Regional Council at all reasonable times.
- 12) Calibration of the flow meter shall be undertaken by the consent holder, at the request of the Waikato Regional Council, if during the term of this consent the accuracy of the meter is considered less than that required by condition 11. The calibration shall be undertaken by an independent qualified person and evidence documenting the calibration shall be forwarded to the Waikato Regional Council within one month of the calibration being completed.
- 13) An alarm system shall be installed to operate in the event of any mechanical failure. The details of the alarm system shall be included within the Management Plan as required by condition 25 of this consent.
- 14) Within 3 months of the commencement of this consent the consent holder shall install and monitor a flow recorder which shall, as a minimum, record flow in the Wigmore Stream in litres per second every 15 minutes at a suitable location upstream of the discharge authorised by this consent. The purpose of the flow monitoring is to establish a reliable correlation to flows in the Opitonui River. The datalogger shall be linked by telemetry to the Waikato Regional Council. It shall be cross referenced to the Waikato Regional Council flow recorder on the Opitonui River downstream of Awaroa Stream Confluence (Waikato Regional Council Site Number 660.1, Map Reference NZTM 1832431E 5926826N). The necessity for flow recording may be modified at any time following approval in writing from the Waikato Regional Council following a request in writing from the consent holder to do so. The approval process will consider a written report by the consent holder with data and explanation to show that sufficient flow monitoring of the Wigmore Stream has been obtained to have a scientifically reliable correlation to flows in the Opitonui River, or which demonstrates the inability to obtain a scientifically reliable correlation following the collection of sufficient flow data. The minimum period of flow monitoring shall include a summer/autumn period with a prolonged low flow recession.
- 15) In addition to the flow monitoring required by condition 14 of this consent, the consent holder shall undertake manual low-flow gauging in the Wigmore Stream at least once during each calendar year when flows are at a seasonal summer low and the flow recorder site is operational. Where there is a prolonged period of summer low flows, the consent holder will repeat the low-flow gauging to ensure data at lower stream flows are measured. The low-flow gauging shall be undertaken at a suitable location upstream of the discharge authorised by this consent at or near the flow recorder site. The purpose of the low-flow gauging is to verify the flow records measured by the flow recorder. The low-flow gauging shall be undertaken by an appropriately qualified and experienced person. A copy of the results of the gauging(s) shall be forwarded to Waikato Regional Council with the written report required in condition 14 and 21 of this consent. The requirement for manual stream flow monitoring under this condition can cease when approval in writing from the Waikato Regional Council under condition 14 has been provided.

### **Discharge and Surface Water Monitoring**

- 16) The consent holder shall measure and characterise the quality, quantity and variability of treated effluent being discharged to the Wigmore Stream and the effects of the discharge on the quality and variability of surface water. To this end, the consent holder shall undertake sampling and analysis of

the discharge and surface water as follows:

Frequency	Sample type and/or location	Parameter
a) Every 15 minutes	Wigmore Stream  Refer to condition 14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water level</li> <li>Instantaneous flow</li> </ul>
b) Daily	Treatment Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rainfall</li> </ul>
c) Daily	Discharge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volume</li> <li>Instantaneous peak flow</li> <li>Average flow</li> </ul>
d) Weekly - during the period from the start of the third week of December to the start of the third week of February - monthly otherwise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inlet of MFU</li> <li>Discharge, following all treatment stages and prior to entering the Wigmore Stream</li> <li>Wigmore Stream 50 metres upstream of discharge</li> <li>Wigmore Stream downstream at Pa Road bridge</li> </ul> <p>Downstream samples to be collected within the period 1 hour either side of local low tide during daylight hours and while discharge is operating.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total Ammoniacal Nitrogen</li> <li><i>Escherichia coli</i></li> <li>Enterococci</li> <li>Conductivity</li> <li>pH</li> <li>Sample date and time</li> <li>Time of low tide occurrence closest to sample time</li> </ul>
e) Monthly – to coincide with d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inlet of MFU</li> <li>Discharge, following all treatment stages and prior to entering the Wigmore Stream</li> <li>Wigmore Stream 50 metres upstream of the discharge</li> <li>Wigmore Stream downstream at Pa Road bridge</li> </ul> <p>Downstream samples to be collected within the period 1 hour either side of local low tide during daylight hours and while discharge is operating.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cBOD<sub>5</sub></li> <li>Nitrate Nitrogen</li> <li>Suspended solids</li> <li>Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen</li> <li>Soluble Reactive Phosphorus</li> <li>Total Phosphorus by Persulphate Digestion</li> <li>Turbidity</li> <li>Sample date and time</li> <li>Time of low tide occurrence closest to sample time</li> </ul>
f) Once per year in January or February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wigmore Stream 50 metres upstream of the discharge</li> <li>Wigmore Stream downstream at Pa Road bridge</li> </ul> <p>Refer to condition 19 for sampling and assessment methodology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aquatic Macroinvertebrate assessment</li> <li>Habitat and aquatic plant assessment</li> <li>Sample date and time</li> <li>Time of low tide occurrence closest to assessment time</li> </ul>
g) At least once per year – to coincide with summer low flows	Wigmore Stream  Additional gauging each summer may be required if low flow conditions are prolonged, to capture a series of low flow records. Refer to condition 15.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flow (via flow gauging)</li> <li>Sample date and time</li> </ul>
h) Once every five years in January or February, commencing 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wigmore Stream 50 metres upstream of the discharge</li> <li>Wigmore Stream downstream at Pa Road bridge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish populations</li> </ul>

- 17) All samples taken in relation to monitoring under this consent shall be collected by a suitably qualified and experienced person(s) with relevant training in the sampling and transporting of water quality samples and in accordance with the Monitoring Implementation Plan titled "Wastewater Sampling at Hahei WWTP and Wigmore Stream" by United Water, dated 1-04-2009 (Waikato Regional Council document number 1472702), or any subsequent update. This plan shall detail methods and map locations for how, when and where sampling will take place. An updated Monitoring Implementation Plan shall be provided to the Waikato Regional Council within three months of commencement of this consent, and at two yearly intervals thereafter, or more often if any method or location changes. The Waikato Regional Council shall be provided with an updated copy of the Monitoring Implementation Plan within one month of any update to the Plan.
- 18) All sample analyses shall be undertaken in accordance with the methods detailed in the "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water, 2017" 23rd edition A.P.H.A and A.W.W.A. and W.E.F., or any other method approved by the Waikato Regional Council.
- 19) All ecological surveys carried out in relation to monitoring under this consent shall be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced person(s) with relevant training in ecological monitoring and assessment. The sampling and analysis methodology shall be consistent with previous surveys undertaken at this site, as summarised in the report titled "Hahei Wastewater Treatment Plant Assessment of Ecological Effects" by Kessels Ecology, dated 24 May 2017 (Waikato Regional Council document number 11016880). The sampling and analysis methodology may be modified following approval in writing from the Waikato Regional Council.

#### **Periodic Reporting**

- 20) The consent holder shall provide to the Waikato Regional Council a data report by 1 December each year that this consent is current. This report shall include all data collected under condition 16 of this consent for the period 1 April to 30 September of the current year and shall identify any non-compliance within that period.
- 21) The consent holder shall provide to the Waikato Regional Council a written monitoring report by 1 June each year that this consent is current for the 12 month period from 1 April of the preceding year to 31 March of the current year. As a minimum this report shall include the following:
  - a) a summary of the monitoring results required by condition 16 of this consent for the 12 month period from 1 April of the preceding year to 31 March of the current year and a critical analysis of the information in terms of compliance and environmental effects;
  - b) a comparison of data with previously collected data identifying any emerging trends;
  - c) comment on compliance, and any reasons for non-compliance or difficulties in achieving compliance, with condition 8 of this consent;
  - d) comment on any works that have been undertaken, or that are proposed to be undertaken in the upcoming year, to improve the environmental performance of the treatment and/or disposal system;
  - e) report on and discuss any complaints received regarding the treatment and/or discharge of treated effluent; and
  - f) any other issues considered important by the consent holder.
- 22) The consent holder shall provide to the Waikato Regional Council an ecological assessment report by 1 June every two years for the duration of this consent. This report shall be prepared by a suitably qualified person or persons with relevant training in ecological monitoring and assessment. As a minimum this report shall include the following:

- a) a summary of the ecological monitoring and water quality results required by condition 16 for the preceding two years;
- b) a comparison of data with previously collected data identifying any emerging trends;
- c) a critical analysis of the current ecological health of the Wigmore Stream, the potential causes of any degradation of the stream, the effects of the discharge authorised by this consent on the Wigmore Stream and downstream coastal waters;
- d) any other issues considered important by the ecologist.

### **Contingency Plan**

23) In the event of any bypasses, other extraordinary events or failure of any critical part of the treatment plant, the consent holder shall manage the treatment plant and discharge to the Wigmore Stream in accordance with the Contingency Plan titled "Hahei Wastewater Treatment Plant Contingency Plan 2015" by Veolia (Waikato Regional Council document number 3584298 and 3584310), or any subsequent update. An updated plan shall be provided to the Waikato Regional Council by 1 June 2018, and at three yearly intervals thereafter. The consent holder shall engage appropriately experienced persons to compile any update to the Contingency Plan, and it shall identify measures and notification protocols to be undertaken by the consent holder that will take into account any potential adverse effects on the Wigmore Stream and users, including but not limited to ecological effects, downstream recreational use, and the Medical Officer of Health.

### **Management Plan**

24) The consent holder shall provide the Waikato Regional Council with a Management Plan which details the procedures that will be implemented to operate in accordance with the conditions of this resource consent and the procedures that will be put into place to maximise wastewater treatment and minimise odour production. This plan shall be lodged with the Waikato Regional Council within 3 months of the commencement of this consent, and shall be reviewed and updated as a minimum annually. The plan shall address, but may not be limited to, the following:

- a) a description of the entire treatment and disposal system facility and how it is operated;
- b) a description of routine maintenance procedures to be undertaken;
- c) an outline of the methods to be utilised to monitor the treatment plant in an operational sense including: monitoring of influent waste water and monitoring of treatment performance;
- d) a description of the methods to be used to ensure that sampling of the discharge as required by condition 16 of this consent is representative of overall discharge quality;
- e) specific management procedures for the efficient functioning of the treatment system including Micro Filtration Unit, including measures to ensure compliance with condition 8 of this consent relating to discharge quality parameters;
- f) procedures for recording routine maintenance and all repairs that are undertaken;
- g) contingency measures in place to deal with unusual events;
- h) chain of command and responsibility, including contact details;
- i) other actions necessary to comply with the requirements of this resource consent;
- j) procedures for improving and/or reviewing the management plan.

25) The consent holder shall manage the wastewater treatment and discharge in accordance with the Management Plan referred to in condition 24 of this consent. Any changes to the Management Plan shall be advised to the Waikato Regional Council in writing after consultation between the consent holder and the Waikato Regional Council.

### **Unauthorised Discharge**

26) The consent holder shall notify the Waikato Regional Council as soon as practicable, and as a minimum requirement within 24 hours, of any discharge to Wigmore Stream from a source that

has bypassed any part of the treatment system, or any discharge to the redundant disposal beds and/or redundant storage pond. The consent holder shall, within 7 days of the discharge occurring, provide a written report to the Waikato Regional Council, identifying the extent of the discharge, possible causes, steps undertaken to remedy the effects of the discharge and measures that will be undertaken to ensure future compliance with this consent.

### **Complaints**

- 27) The consent holder shall maintain and keep a complaints register for all complaints, including discharge, water quality and odour complaints regarding operations at the site received by the consent holder. The register shall record:
- a) the date, time and duration of the event that has resulted in a complaint,
  - b) any corrective action undertaken by the consent holder in response to the complaint, including actions taken to prevent similar events in the future.
  - c) the location of the complainant when the event was detected,
  - d) the possible cause of the event, and
  - e) the weather conditions and wind direction at the site when the event allegedly occurred.
- 28) The register outlined in condition 27 shall be available to the Waikato Regional Council at all reasonable times. Waikato Regional Council shall be informed of complaints received by the consent holder which may infer non-compliance with the conditions of this resource consent to the Waikato Regional Council within 24 hours of the complaint being received. In addition, the consent holder shall provide written information on the incident including all of the details required by (a) to (e) of condition 27 of this consent, which shall be forwarded to the Waikato Regional Council within 5 days of the complaint being received.

### **Wigmore Stream Mouth**

- 29) The consent holder shall be responsible for ensuring that the Wigmore Stream, from the treated wastewater discharge point to its mouth, is kept clear of debris and that the stream mouth is not blocked by sand, to the extent that the flow of the Wigmore Stream is unimpeded into the coastal marine area. The consent holder's obligations in respect of this condition are limited to the works that can be undertaken without the need for resource consent under the relevant rule(s) of the Waikato Regional Coastal Plan.

### **Upgrade Works and Reporting**

- 30) The consent holder shall implement the treatment plant upgrade works detailed in the Technical Memo titled "Hahei WWTP Consent Ammonical Nitrogen Reduction" by Harrison Grierson, dated 14 June 2017 (Waikato Regional Council document number 10628287), or equivalent upgrades, to ensure the wastewater discharge limits in condition 8 are met. The works shall include, as a minimum, installation of additional aeration in the Aeration Pond. These works shall be fully implemented within one year of the commencement of this consent.
- 31) The consent holder shall provide a written report on or before the fifth and tenth anniversaries of the commencement of this consent that shall outline:
- a) what investigations have been undertaken to date to identify the long-term strategy for wastewater treatment and disposal options at Hahei upon the expiry of this consent,
  - b) what investigations have been undertaken or identified in relation to potential effects of disposal options being considered for wastewater at Hahei upon the expiry of this consent,
  - c) what consultation has been undertaken in relation to potential treatment and disposal options for wastewater at Hahei upon the expiry of this consent.

### **Review**

- 32) The Waikato Regional Council may, within the six month period following receipt of the monitoring information required by condition 22 of this consent, serve notice on the consent

holder under section 128(1) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and commence a review of the conditions of this resource consent for the purpose of reviewing the compliance limit(s) of any contaminant and/or, if necessary and appropriate, to require the holder of this resource consent to adopt the best practicable option to remove or reduce adverse effects on surface water quality or ecology due to the discharge.

33) The Waikato Regional Council may, within the year of the second, fifth and tenth anniversary of the commencement of this consent, serve notice on the consent holder under section 128 (1) of the Resource Management Act 1991, of its intention to review the conditions of this resource consent for the following purposes:

- i) to review the effectiveness of the conditions of this resource consent in avoiding or mitigating any adverse effects on ground or surface water quality from the exercise of this resource consent and if necessary to avoid, remedy or mitigate such effects by way of further or amended conditions; or
- ii) if necessary and appropriate, to require the holder of this resource consent to adopt the best practicable option to remove or reduce adverse effects on surface water quality due to the discharge; or
- iii) to review the adequacy of and the necessity for monitoring undertaken by the consent holder.

Costs associated with any review of the conditions of this resource consent will be recovered from the consent holder in accordance with the provisions of section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

34) Within 12 months of any co-management legislation commencing for the Hauraki Gulf catchment, the Waikato Regional Council may, following service of notice on the consent holder pursuant to section 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991, commence a review of the conditions of this consent pursuant to section 128 of the Resource Management Act 1991, for the purpose of ensuring that this consent is consistent with the provisions of any such legislation.

#### **Access**

35) This resource consent is granted by the Waikato Regional Council subject to its officers or agents being permitted access to the property at all reasonable times for the purpose of carrying out inspections, surveys, investigations, tests, measurements or taking samples.



**Advice notes**

1. This resource consent does not give any right of access over private or public property. Arrangements for access must be made between the consent holder and the property owner.
2. The consent holder may apply to change the conditions of the resource consent under s.127 RMA.
3. The reasonable costs incurred by Waikato Regional Council arising from supervision and monitoring of this consent will be charged to the consent holder. This may include but not be limited to routine inspection of the site by Waikato Regional Council officers or agents, liaison with the consent holder, responding to complaints or enquiries relating to the site, and review and assessment of compliance with the conditions of consent.
4. Note that pursuant to s333 of the RMA 1991, enforcement officers may at all reasonable times go onto the property that is the subject of this consent, for the purpose of carrying out inspections, surveys, investigations, tests, measurements or taking samples.
5. If you intend to replace this consent upon its expiry, please note that an application for a new consent made at least 6 months prior to this consent's expiry gives you the right to continue exercising this consent after it expires in the event that your application is not processed prior to this consent's expiry.

*In terms of s116 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this consent commences on 7 December 2017.*