

5 Information to be submitted with an application for a discharge permit

Section 88 of the Act requires each application for a discharge permit to:

- a) be made in the prescribed form and manner; and
- b) include an assessment of environmental effects in such detail as corresponds with the scale and significance of the effects that the activity may have on the environment.

In summary, the key elements that must be included with an application are:

- i) a description of the activity for which consent is sought, and its location;
- ii) an assessment of any actual or potential effects that the activity may have on the environment, and the ways in which any adverse effects may be mitigated;
- iii) any information required to be included in the application by this Plan or by regulations; and
- iv) a statement specifying all other resource consents that the applicant may require from any consent authority in respect of the activity to which the application relates, and whether the applicant has applied for such consents.

The Taranaki Regional Council requires the information below to be included with an application for a discharge permit, along with an assessment of effects on the environment, detailed requirements for which are listed in Section 5.2 of this Plan.

5.1 Specific information for all applications

1. Full name, postal address, home and business telephone numbers of the person or organisation to whom the discharge permit is to be issued.
2. Name and telephone number of the contact person who is fully conversant with all aspects of the application.
3. Name, address and telephone number of the consultant engaged (if applicable).
4. Name and address for service of documents (if different from above).
5. Name and telephone number of occupier or lessee of the affected site.
6. Location and address of the affected site (as near as possible).

7. Relevant territorial local authority (New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council or South Taranaki District Council).
8. List of all other resource consents required, and reference numbers of any previous resource consents for this application from all consent authorities.
9. List of names and addresses of property owners or occupiers likely to be directly affected by this application.
10. Content of discharge (name contaminants).
11. Type of operation causing discharge.
12. Purpose for discharge.
13. Maximum daily volume and maximum discharge rate.
14. Number of hours per day that discharge will occur.
15. Full description of any seasonal or time-related variation in discharge strengths and volumes expected (if applicable).
16. Site plan and address of discharge source, for inspection purposes.
17. Legal description of land at discharge source, for inspection purposes.
18. Location of the discharge point (GPS).
19. If discharge point is different from place of treatment/usage, include details with supporting plans of each site.
20. Full description of works to be constructed, including process or department from which discharge originates, type of treatment facility and the quality of the proposed discharge (include design specifications).

5.2 Assessment of environmental effects

An assessment of effects on the environment is to be included with an application for a resource consent. The detail in the assessment of effects must be in such detail as corresponds with the scale and significance of the actual or potential effects the activity may have on the environment and must be prepared in accordance with the Fourth Schedule of the Act.

The assessment of effects for a controlled activity, or for a restricted discretionary activity need address only

those matters over which Taranaki Regional Council has retained control or reserved discretion (as the case may be). Those matters are specified in the relevant rules of this Plan.

Applicants should note that in considering any application for a resource consent and any submissions received, the Taranaki Regional Council is required to have regard to any objectives, policies, rules and other provisions of this Plan (Section 104 of the Act). Applicants should therefore take particular note of the objectives, policies and rules contained in this Plan, in addition to the matters set out in the Fourth Schedule to the Act, when preparing an assessment of effects. Consideration of all resource consent applications is subject to Part II of the Act. Accordingly where any Part II matters are relevant they should also be addressed.

The extent to which all of these matters need to be addressed will depend on the nature and scale of the proposed activity. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide sufficient information to enable the consent authority to assess any such application. If the applicant is uncertain as to the amount of information required or where such information may be obtained, it is suggested that the applicant contact the Consents Section of the Taranaki Regional Council for pre-application discussions.

5.3 Requirement for further information

Notwithstanding the above, the Council may, at any reasonable time, require the applicant to provide further information in respect of the activity for which the application for a discharge permit is made.

The following list gives an indication of some of the circumstances in which the powers under Section 92 (that is, where further information may be required) may be used:

- a) the standard application forms have not been properly completed;
- b) the application does not adequately describe the nature or location of the proposal;
- c) the application does not specify, or inaccurately specifies, other consents that may be needed to undertake the activity;
- d) in the case of any controlled or restricted discretionary activity, when the application and any accompanying information is not sufficient for the Council to be able to assess the matters to which it has restricted its discretion over or in respect of which it has reserved control (as the case may be);
- e) in the case of any discretionary or non-complying activity, the application provides insufficient information:
 - i) to enable the actual or potential adverse effects of the activity to be identified;

- ii) relating to the ways in which any adverse effects are to be mitigated;
 - iii) regarding the identification of other parties who may be affected; or
 - iv) regarding other parties who have been consulted or their views, or both.
- f) there is uncertainty regarding the need or purpose of the consent;
 - g) there are reasonable grounds to suggest that alternative locations or methods of undertaking the activity may be both feasible and would have less adverse effect on the environment than the proposed option;
 - h) arising from a significant issue raised by submitters as a result of the pre-hearing hearing process; or
 - i) a report is required to be commissioned to fully assess the effects of the activity or to audit any information provided by the applicant.