

**Minutes of the Policy and Planning
Hearing Committee Meeting of the
Taranaki Regional Council, to hear
submissions on the Draft Regional
Policy Statement for Taranaki, held in
the Taranaki Regional Council
Chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on
Thursday 16 October 2008 at 12.40 pm.**

Present	Councillors	N W Walker	(Chairperson)
		M J Cloke M P Joyce	
		D N MacLeod	(ex officio)
Representatives	Councillor Mr	J Rowe	(Stratford District Council)
		G Hight	(Federated Farmers of New Zealand)
In attendance	Messrs	A D McLay	(Director-Resource Management)
		G K Bedford	(Director-Environment Quality)
		R A Phillips	(Director-Operations)
		G C Severinsen	(Policy Manager)
	Mrs	K van Gameren	(Committee Administrator)

Apologies The apologies from Councillor M G Davey, Councillor P D Horton, Councillor M A Irving, Councillor D L Lean. Councillor M Betts (New Plymouth District Council) and Councillor A Hickey (South Taranaki District Council) were received and sustained.

Notification of Late Item Tabled Submissions from Telecom New Zealand, Dow Agro Sciences (NZ) Limited, Transpower New Zealand Limited, Department of Conservation, TrustPower Limited, Fish & Game New Zealand (Taranaki Region) and New Zealand Transport Agency.

1. Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki: Hearing of submissions

- 1.1 Mr A D McLay, Director Resource Management, and Mr G C Severinsen, Policy Manager, spoke to the memorandum outlining the following:
- background information on regional policy statements and on the processing of submissions on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki (Proposed RPS) leading up to the hearing of submissions on the Proposed RPS

- the introduction of the Report on submissions following pre-hearing consultation and the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki as amended following pre-hearing consultation
 - summary of the main issues raised in submissions, including the tabled submissions
 - recommendation that the Hearing Committee agree on its recommendations on submissions to the Proposed RPS
 - outlining the next steps in the process subsequent to the hearing.
- 1.2 Members noted that due to the exhaustive pre-hearing consultation with submitters by Council officers, most submitters had advised that they did not wish to appear at the Hearing. Four submitters (Fish & Game New Zealand, TrustPower Limited, New Zealand Transport Agency and Department of Conservation) who had initially advised that they wish to attend the Hearing and were scheduled in the Agenda papers to appear in person, subsequently advised that they no longer wished to be heard, but requested to have a further written statement, submission or evidence tabled at the Hearing to be considered as part of the deliberations. Three submitters (Mighty River Power Limited, Tegal Foods Limited and Genesis Energy) had already provided further written submissions to be considered by the Hearing Committee and those submissions had been included in the Agenda circulated to Members. Subsequent to the preparation of the Agenda, a further seven tabled submissions were received by the Hearing Committee from Telecom New Zealand, DowAgro Sciences (NZ) Limited, Transpower New Zealand Limited, Department of Conservation, TrustPower Limited, Fish & Game New Zealand (Taranaki Region) and New Zealand Transport Agency. A total of 14 submitters had therefore tabled further written statements, submissions or evidence to be considered by the Hearing Committee.
- 1.3 Members of the Policy and Planning Hearing Committee discussed and deliberated on all the submissions received, including the tabled submissions.
- 1.4 In relation to tabled submissions, the Committee noted and agreed with the submissions that:
- the submissions by Transpower New Zealand Limited and the New Zealand Transport Agency fully supported the recommendations in the Officers Report on Submissions in relation to their own submissions and sought they be adopted without further amendment
 - the submissions by Mighty River Power and Tegal Foods had been resolved and discussions prior to the Hearing resulting in no further change required to the Officers Report on Submissions
 - the submissions by Genesis Energy, Telecom New Zealand and DowAgro Sciences (NZ) Limited noted some differences between the recommendations in the Officers Report on Submissions and the revised Regional Policy Statement and sought that the recommendations in the Officers report be adopted. Staff confirmed the Officers report to be the correct wording and advised that that wording be adopted.
 - the submissions by the Department of Conservation, Fish & Game New Zealand and TrustPower Limited had sought and/or agreed to further explanations text being included in the Regional Policy Statement in relation to the words 'as far as practicable' and to retain the words 'as far as possible' in relation to methods to protect the water of the Stony River and parts of the Maketawa and Manganui River catchments in their natural state.

- 1.5 In relation to all other submissions as addressed in the Officers report on submissions, the Committee agreed, following discussions, to the recommendations contained in that report.
- 1.6 There being no further discussion on the submissions on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki, the Policy and Planning Hearing Committee moved the following recommendations from the officer's report in the agenda and the report on tabled submissions presented to the Committee as a late item:

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and acknowledges with thanks the further written submissions tabled by submitters at the Hearing of submissions
2. notes that the Policy and Planning Hearing Committee having considered the further written submissions tabled at the Hearing and the requirements of the Resource Management Act has agreed on its recommendations in relation to those written submissions being the recommendations contained within the memorandum.

08/245

Joyce/Hight

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki: Hearing of submissions
2. receives and acknowledges with thanks the submissions made on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki
3. notes that the Policy and Planning Hearing Committee having considered all written and verbal submissions made on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki and the requirements of the Resource Management Act has agreed on its recommendations in relation to submissions being the recommendations contained in the report "*Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki: Report on submissions following pre-hearing consultation*" as amended following the hearing of submissions
4. directs officers to prepare a Hearing Committee report setting out the Committee's recommendations on all submissions.

08/246

Walker/MacLeod

There being no further business, the Hearing Committee Chairman, Councillor N W Walker, declared the Policy and Planning Hearing Committee meeting closed at 1.20 pm.

Confirmed

Chairman: _____
D N MacLeod

Date: **4 November 2008**