# **Telemetry**

# Information for consent holders

Under new Government requirements, you must send the Taranaki Regional Council a daily record of your water usage, instead of reporting annually as in the past. Daily reporting is achieved using telemetry, which is explained in this leaflet.

Even when your water usage is being telemetered, your property will continue to undergo an annual compliance monitoring inspection. A Council officer will check that your metering, recording and telemetry equipment is functioning correctly.

#### What is telemetry?

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Telemetry is the electronic transmission of data or information from one place to another.

#### How does it work?

Your flowmeter is connected to a telemetry device. The flowmeter generates electronic pulses each time a set volume of water passes through the meter. These pulses are recorded by the telemetry device, and automatically transmitted from your property to the Council. Typically, this is done via cellphone or radio networks, but other transmission networks are becoming available.

# What happens to my water usage record?

Water usage records are stored in a Council database and Council officers monitor and analyse it to assess compliance with resource consent conditions. Usage data is also used for water accounting purposes and contributes to the overall management of the region's water resources.

#### What's in it for the consent holder?

Telemetry opens up opportunities for you to better manage compliance with your consent conditions. Alarms can be set notify you directly when you are approaching consented limits, or when there is an issue with your recording equipment. The Council is also developing a system that will (in time) allow you to monitor your own water use in near real-time.

# Are there any limitations?

Some areas in Taranaki have only limited cellphone and radio network coverage, unsuitable for telemetry. You will need to talk to your service provider to see if another solution is available. If there isn't, you will need to apply for an exemption from the Council and continue to keep a record of water usage as per your resource consent.

#### How much does it cost?

Costs vary according to the suppliers and technology used. A service provider will be able to provide an estimated cost for a solution tailored to your specific needs.

#### What service providers are available?

You may already be familiar with telemetry and already have a service provider that you would like to work with. If this is the case, please make contact with them to start getting your water usage data telemetered!

If not, the following service providers will be able to help you with your telemetry requirements:

Company	Phone
Greaves Electrical	0800 311 311
HALO Systems	0800 476 380
HARVEST	0800 427 837
loT Taranaki	027 869 670
Levno	0800 453 866
WaterForce	06 355 0009

(Note: This may not be a complete list of providers and selection of a provider is at the consent-holder's discretion.)

# How can the Council help?

Council officers can provide advice and information on the Government requirements, and what you must do to ensure compliance with the regulations and your resource consent conditions. We are also able to help with any other questions you may have.



A typical set-up with a flowmeter (measuring device), a datalogger (water usage recording device) and a telemetry device. In some cases, a datalogger will not be required.

#### Useful Regional Council – water metering web page

https://www.trc.govt.nz/environment/freshwater/info-for-water-users/measuring-and-reporting-requirements/

#### **Useful links**

Taranaki Regional Council information: www.trc.govt.nz/measuring-and-reporting-requirements

Resource Management (Measurement and Reporting of Water Takes) Regulations 2020: <u>www.bit.ly/WaterRules2020</u>

Ministry for the Environment information: www.bit.ly/WaterOverview

# **More questions? Contact us**

#### Taranaki Regional Council

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