



Report 09.176  
Date 25 March 2009  
File E/06/31/03

Committee Council  
Author Sally Baber, Chair, Regulatory Committee  
Nigel Corry, Divisional Manager, Environment  
Management

## **Report on the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 24 March 2009**

### **1. Purpose**

To inform Council about the meeting of the Regulatory Committee that took place on 24 March 2009.

### **2. Reports**

#### **2.1 Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Bill (the Bill)**

Natasha Tod, from the Ministry for the Environment, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the key issues found in the Bill. These issues have been grouped into 9 key themes which are:

- Reducing frivolous, vexatious and anti-competitive objection
- Streamlining processes for projects of national significance
- Creating an Environmental Protection Authority
- Improving plan development and plan change processes
- Improving resource consent processes
- Efficiency of decision making
- Improving national tools
- Incentivising compliance
- Minor procedural changes

It was noted that officers are preparing a staff submission on the Bill, and that the development of our submission is being coordinated with that of Local Government New Zealand and other Regional Councils. It was agreed that a draft of the officer prepared submission would be circulated to the Committee as soon as possible for comment and input, and that if it required, the draft submission could be discussed at the close of the Council meeting on 2 April.

## **2.2 Environmental Regulation report cards 2007/2008**

Report cards on the work of the Environmental Regulation department were tabled at the meeting. Based on the State of the Environment Monitoring annual report cards, the Environmental Regulation cards have, for the first time, pulled together all our regulatory functions into one reporting format, covering:

- Resource consents
- Resource consent compliance
- Incident response
- Enforcement
- Pollution prevention

The release of the cards was accompanied by a press release, and full copies can be found on the GW website. The report cards have been distributed widely to industry and community groups, consultants, local and central government and libraries.

## **3. Regular reporting**

Regular summary reports on decisions on non-notified resource consent applications, pollution control incidents, and the Council's input into city and district planning were also provided. This information is readily available on the Council's website to ensure public accessibility of the information.

## **4. Unconfirmed minutes**

The unconfirmed minutes of the committee meeting are attached as *Attachment 1*.

## **5. Recommendations**

*That the council:*

- 1. Receives the report; and*
- 2. Notes the contents.*

Report approved by:

Report prepared by:

**Sally Baber**  
Chair,  
Regulatory Committee

**Nigel Corry**  
Divisional Manager,  
Environment Management

**Attachment 1:** Unconfirmed minutes