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**REPORT 2**  
*(1215/13/IM)*

## **WESTERN WASTEWATER TREATMENT**

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### **1. Purpose of Report**

At its meeting of 15 September 2005 the Board resolved to delegate Members Robbers and Smith to provide feedback to the Board on the above proposal. This Report includes information from the Members.

### **2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Makara/Ohariu Community Board:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Ratify the Makara/Ohariu Community Board comments to the Western Wastewater Treatment Plan renewal of Resource Consent.*

### **3. Conclusion**

Attached are the Makara/Ohariu Community Board comments to the Western Wastewater Treatment Plan renewal of Resource Consent.

**Western Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Renewal of Resource Consents, Scoping of Issues and Options.**

It was moved at the Meeting of the Makara/Ohariu Community Board (the Board), on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2005, that the Board members, Ted Smith and Justin Robbers investigate and comment on the above proposal. It was also moved at the same Board meeting that the Board members investigate issues raised by Mr. and Mrs. Warren of 509 South Makara Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren raised concerns over the condition of the effluent outfall from the treatment plant to the coastal outfall. At several points this pipeline crosses the Warren farm and in their opinion is in such a condition that numerous leaks have occurred. These leaks seem to occur generally at times of high capacity, and do spill raw sewage onto their property and into the stream.

A second issue raised by the Warrens was one of legal access onto or across their farm. It is understood and accepted that the WCC has a right to access any private land for the general purposes of maintenance and or replacement of services. This right of access does not automatically extend to any other party including Capacity Ltd.

In relation to the first issue regarding the condition of the pipeline the two Board members inspected the pipeline on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September from the intersection of the two streams at the end of South Makara Rd down to the outfall on the coast. In general the pipeline is underground or at least hidden from view, but in the areas where the pipeline is visible it would appear to be in good condition and well maintained. It should be noted that these areas have been replaced and are not the original pipeline. It is understood that where the pipeline is not visible or underground the original pipeline is still in use.

There was no evidence of effluent in the stream or on the stream banks at the time of the inspection. Even though the stream, particularly towards the Coast appears clear it should be noted that the water is unfit for drinking or bathing. This concern was raised by weekend visitors to the area and it is the Board members recommendation that additional signage be erected in the general stream mouth area to this effect.

The Board members gained limited access to the Warren farm to inspect the pipeline from the intersection of the two streams back to the treatment plant. Unfortunately both the tracks were in such poor condition that access to all areas was not possible. From a visual inspection at one point it would appear that the condition of this section of the pipeline was similar to the downstream sections.

It was noted however that some regular visitors to the coastal outfall area have also noted on rare occasions that raw sewage and paper wastes have been sighted in the stream and on the banks after significant rainfall events supporting the Warrens claims. This is of major concern to the Community Board and would indicate that the straining method at the Treatment Plant under severe conditions requires investigation.

The Board is not in a position to recommend any rectification plan, but would appreciate being advised as to how Wellington City Council and Capacity Ltd intend to overcome this issue.

At this date the Board members would support further investigation to the pipeline in the underground areas and any upstream areas not sighted, but based on their visual inspection, would not support replacement of the pipeline at this time.

In relation to this second issue the Warrens have in place a comprehensive Health and Safety Policy as required by O.S.H. which they request all visitors to agree to and sign. The Warrens have requested that Capacity Ltd agree to the same conditions and plan, but to date Capacity Ltd have refused to do so.

It is the Board members recommendation that Capacity Ltd agrees to the Warrens Health and Safety Policy and provide the Warrens a copy of their own company Health and Safety policy. This action would then settle further access issues for Capacity Ltd.

Justin Robbers  
Ted Smith

Makara/ Ohariu Community Board