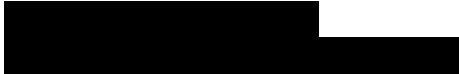


17 January 2024

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-24818



Tēnā koe 

Request for information 2023-293

I refer to your request for information dated 28 November 2023 5:53 pm, which was received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 29 November 2023 6:04 am. You have requested the following:

“All correspondence, to and from, regarding consents for the odour blasters at the Seaview wastewater treatment plant”

Greater Wellington’s response follows:

I have attached the following information regarding odour cannon use at Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant on file as of 28 November 2023. This includes the requested enquiry relating specifically to the planning/consenting requirements as well as any meeting minutes that discuss the use of the odour cannons and safety of the chemicals between community members, Wellington Water Limited, Veolia Water New Zealand Limited, Regional Public Health and Greater Wellington.

- **Attachment 1** – Email - Seaview Deodoriser concerns - RPH response
- **Attachment 2** – Email - Odour Cannon discharge at Seaview WWTP (Planning assessment request)
- **Attachment 3** – Seaview odour cannon - planning assessment.
- Greater Wellington, Wellington Water and Veolia Monthly Meeting Minutes from:
 - 22 June 2023 (**Attachment 4**)
 - 25 May 2023 (**Attachment 5**)
 - 27 April 2023 (**Attachment 6**)
- **Attachment 7**: Odour cannon complaint: Community Member and Greater Wellington.

- **Attachment 8:** Odour cannon complaint sent to WWL and correspondence on use, consent application.

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Lian Butcher

Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Taiao | Group Manager, Environment

Diane Robinson

From: Craig Shuttleworth <Craig.Shuttleworth@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Sent: Friday, 28 April 2023 11:28 am
To: Joseph Edmonds; Amanda OBrien
Subject: Seaview Deodoriser concerns - RPH response

Hi Joe/Amanda, hope you're both well,

Please see below response we received from RPH as promised in yesterday's Monthly meeting, please note as advised yesterday we have already let the concerned community members know directly and also Bruce at HCC.

Any questions just give me a shout,

Also, best of luck with your trip @Joseph Edmonds – good times ahead no doubt!

Cheers
Craig

From: Ellana Clendon [HVDHB] <Ellana.Clendon@huttvalleydhb.org.nz>
Sent: Friday, 21 April 2023 2:47 pm
To: Craig Shuttleworth <Craig.Shuttleworth@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Cc: Jill McKenzie [HVDHB] <Jill.McKenzie@huttvalleydhb.org.nz>
Subject: Deodouriser concerns

Caution: This is an external email. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Kia ora Craig,

Thank you for getting in contact regarding concerns which residents in Bell Road, Lower Hutt brought forward at the Seaview WWTP CLG meeting on 28/03/2023. Of concern to a resident was "the safety of the deodoriser deployed to mask potential odours citing some of the ingredients were harmful to human health e.g., ammonia salts" and you asked us to provide information on the health effects.

The National Public Health Service requested information on the deodorising product that is used at the Seaview Waste Water Treatment Plant. You provided the safety data sheet and the dilution rate for Hi Chem Disinfectant Reodorant of 500:1 ratio. We have looked into this product using the Safety Data Sheet and the national TOXINZ database.

Hi Chem Disinfectant Reodorant has a Hazard Classification for skin and eye irritation by direct contact (6.4A and 6.3A) but not inhalation. It has an EPA Group Standard: HSR002530 - Cleaning Products (Subsidiary Hazard) Group Standard, with generic procedures for using this chemical. Hi Chem Disinfectant Reodorant is then diluted 500:1 by Veolia and dispersed using a cannon. The ingredient of concern are Quaternary ammonium compounds, alkylbenzyl dimethyl, chlorides, which make up <10% of the Hi Chem Disinfectant Reodorant. Dilution at a 500:1 ratio results in a solution of <0.02% strength.

Exposure Route

Ingestion: Health concerns are most likely following exposure by ingestion (swallowing) solutions containing >7.5% quaternary ammonium compounds. This type of exposure would require handling undiluted product with accidental ingestion and is not relevant for potential public exposures.

Skin Contact: Repeated or prolonged skin contact, including via inappropriate application of therapeutic shampoos and via airborne vapour or mist, may result in local effects ranging from irritation or uncommonly allergic contact dermatitis at concentrations > 0.1%, to mild irritation at < 5%, moderate irritation at 5 to 10%, and severe irritation or skin burns at concentrations > 10%. Given the dilute nature of the product utilised in the cannon (<0.02% strength) and the further dilution as the droplets travel in the air, this is not expected to be a health concern for the general public.

Eye Contact: Eye contact with < 0.1% solutions are not usually associated with symptoms. Repeated exposure may cause transient irritation. Mild irritation can occur with strengths of 0.1%. The concentration of product utilised in the cannon would not be expected to be at a level that is associated with eye irritation.

Inhalation: Breathing in concentrated quaternary ammonium compounds, especially with repeated exposure has been associated with reports of lung irritation, and a higher risk of developing asthma in workers using products with quaternary ammonium compounds. It is not expected that the dilute product utilised in the cannon would present a risk to the general public.

Summary

Potential health concerns associated with exposure to quaternary ammonium compounds are most likely associated with direct contact with undiluted product i.e. the staff preparing the solution. Staff exposure risk is managed by following the correct health and safety procedures. Quaternary ammonium compounds are often part of household cleaning and disinfection products and so exposure to the public is relatively common. Given the level of dilution of the product used in the cannon, and the distance between the placement of the cannon and potential locations for public exposure (typically this type of cannon dispersal method has an estimated droplet range of 50-100 metres) that effectively dilutes the strength further, we would not expect this to represent a health risk for the general public.

Ngā mihi | Kind regards

Ellana Clendon (she/her)

Health Protection Officer | Āpiha Tiaki Hauora

Health Protection | National Public Health Service | Capital, Coast, Hutt Valley and Wairarapa

P: (04) 570 9002 | **M:** 0272904292 | healthprotection@huttvalleydhb.org.nz | www.rph.org.nz



Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand

TeWhatuOra.govt.nz

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Diane Robinson

From: Joemar Cacnio <Joemar.Cacnio@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 3 May 2023 2:01 pm
To: Joseph Edmonds; Blair Johnson; Amanda OBrien
Cc: Andressa Lage; Craig Shuttleworth; Richard Taylor
Subject: RE: Odour Cannon discharge at Seaview WWTP
Attachments: Seaview odour cannon - planning assessment.pdf

Hi Joe and Amanda,

Here's the requested PNRP assessment regarding the use of odour cannon. Once you've had a review of it. Please let us know if you require further action from us.

I gather that Craig have provided to you the response we got from RPH regarding the use of the odour cannon. That was also provided to HCC and the concerned members of the community.

Kind regards,
Joemar

From: Joseph Edmonds <Joseph.Edmonds@gw.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 3:50 PM
To: Blair Johnson <Blair.Johnson@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Cc: Joemar Cacnio <Joemar.Cacnio@wellingtonwater.co.nz>; Andressa Lage <Andressa.Lage@wellingtonwater.co.nz>; Craig Shuttleworth <Craig.Shuttleworth@wellingtonwater.co.nz>; Amanda OBrien <Amanda.OBrien@gw.govt.nz>
Subject: Odour Cannon discharge at Seaview WWTP

Caution: This is an external email. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Blair,

I have just talked with Amanda regarding the operation of the odour cannon, which was raised at the CLG.

Please provide an assessment against the PNRP ([Chapter-6.1-Rules-Air-Quality-Appeal-version-2022.pdf](#) [\(gw.govt.nz\)](#)) by 05 May 2023, this would cover whether or not resource consent is required for the operation of the odour cannon.

Last year GWRC talked with Jill from RPH (healthprotection@huttvalleydhb.org.nz) regarding the health effects of the operation of odour cannons. As we have discussed, this could be a good contact for you to get an independent assessment of the health effects of the odour cannon at Seaview.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi,



Joe Edmonds (He/Him)
Kaitohutohu | Resource Advisor
Greater Wellington Te Pane Matua Taiao
021 465 206
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington 6011

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PROACTIVE RELEASE

MEMO

TO Joemar Cacino

COPIED TO

FROM Richard Taylor

DATE 19/04/2023

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Planning assessment – Seaview odour cannon

Section 15 of the RMA controls discharges of contaminant to the environment, with part 2 stating that unless the contaminant is specifically permitted by a rule in a plan resource consent it is prohibited.

The definition of contaminant is a substance (including gases, odorous compounds, liquids, solids, and micro-organisms) that when discharged is likely to change the physical, chemical, or biological condition of the environment into which it is discharged.

The proposal to control odours from the Seaview WWTP by discharge of a product via a mobile odour cannon would then need to meet the test both definition of a contaminant and the discharge rules in the regional plan to be compliant.

The appeals version 2022 of Greater Wellington's Natural Resources Plan contains the relevant regional rules for the manage environmental discharges with chapter 5.1 managing discharges to air.

The discharge to air of the deodorising product meets the definition of a contaminant however there is no specific rule that permits its discharge and as such the activity will default to the discretionary activity rule R42.

I note that the WWTP has consent that permits the discharges to air from the operation of the WWTP facility WGN950164(01).

Conditions of this consent require that the plan be designed, operated, and managed in a way to prevent the discharge of odours that are dangerous, offensive, or objectionable beyond the property boundary.

The purpose of the consent is to manage the discharges from the facilities ventilation systems and not consent permit the discharge of a masking agent to reduce the affects of odours from the plant. So while conditions 11 to 13 which relate to the preparation and update of operations management plans for the management of odour discharges from the facility, the use of odour cannons and the discharge of chemicals to mask odours where not part of the facilities design and therefore the proposed activity is not in general accordance.

As such this assessment is that the discretionary activity consent would be required under R42 for Other Discharges.

Richard Taylor
Advisor RMA, Consents and Environment

Ph: 04 912 4400
Richard.taylor@wellingtonwater.co.nz

Regional Wastewater Services MEETING MINUTES

Date:	22 June 2023
Subject:	GWRC Monthly Meeting
Time:	11:00am
Location:	MS Teams
Attendees:	GWRC –, Jo Frances, Josh Knowles Veolia - Julian Villada, Edward Yong, Alex Phelan, Nico Robins WWL - Joemar Cacnio (Chair), Craig Shuttleworth, Brooke Tatana (mins), Gordon Macrae, Tim Blackman
Apologies	Amanda O'Brien, Ben Bond, Blair Johnson

Relationships and communications	Action	Due
Intros made to Tim Blackman, Senior Advisor, Resource Management & Environment (WWL)		
Moa Point WWTP	Action	Due
<p><u>Effluent consent compliance</u></p> <p>Julian advised the plant had seen low results over the last week expecting to be compliant by September. UV was operating at 100%.</p> <p>Josh enquired why September and Julian explained his calculations in the forecast show potential for August compliance however, September advised as likely to cover any spikes in results.</p> <p>Action: Joemar advised he will provide the latest results for all 4 treatment plants up until mid-June to GWRC</p>	Joemar	30 June 2023
<p><u>Odour issues – Scrubber system cleaning update</u></p> <p>Julian advised we received April and May complaints due to scrubber system. Confirmed acid wash in the system worked well and is working fine now and back to normal operations. Completed the TRS test earlier this month gave good results and is now also compliant.</p> <p>Ed noted it will be cleaned regularly every 1-2 years via a PM activity and as necessary as determined by performance of the TRS results, it will be monitored regularly.</p>		
<p><u>IPS Repairs</u></p> <p>Gordon updates all noting the pipes are being fabricated however, the contractor has not been able to be onsite when required therefore an early Sept start date is expected however, this is dependent on funding announcement.</p> <p>Josh states the inlet pump station overflow would happen in heavy rain and asks what the pumping capacity is currently. Ed confirms 3200ltr/s so there is extra capacity above 3000 however, anything over 3k could potentially cause a short outfall discharge although this would only likely be in an extreme wet weather event.</p>		

<p>Fire Report</p> <p>Joemar confirms fire report has been sent out and he can redistribute to anyone who hasn't received it if they require.</p> <p>Josh confirms this report closed the "Please Explain" letter as per his email sent out 19th June and adds the independent investigation draft was received yesterday (Weds 21st) and he will work through this with his team and advise us of the findings and what WWL can use it for.</p> <p>Action – Josh will provide update on draft investigation report</p> <p>Careys Gully:</p> <p>Current Maintenance Issues</p> <p>Ed notes an advisory notice was received from Claire McKeivitt (GWRC) in early June and as a result all new media for the biofilter is now on site. Currently working with the contractor for media replacement due to happen this week or next.</p> <p>Should be replaced up to 2 weeks after they start so mid-July completion likely.</p> <p>Odour compliance</p> <p>Josh notes there have been odour complaints from Careys Gully with Veolia report (completed by Tich Mundwa) showing high readings. Ed and Julian advised this was likely related to excavation works being performed outside the boundary area. Alex adds, Tich checked the biofilter around the black boxes and boundary with little odour other than a very minor scent of H2S from the biofilter.</p> <p>Tich did mention a strong compost/landfill smell but cannot be determined.</p> <p>Josh will raise this with the landfill compliance manager for further details.</p>	<p>Josh</p>	<p>12 July 2023</p>
Western WWTP		
<p>Effluent consent compliance</p> <p>No issues – Plant compliant. Consented discharge occurred for 4 hours on 27th May otherwise no issues.</p> <p>Outfall Repair</p> <p>Josh advised he has spoken to the consultant managing the project who has confirmed the piling is near completed and they are almost ready to connect the pipe to the piles. Craig advised the outfall update will be going out to the interested parties via email within the next week.</p> <p>Other business:</p> <p>Joemar asked about the circuit breaker replacement and when it will likely be installed. Ed advised the installation may happen next weekend, they just need to make sure they have enough staff to do the works as it will need to be night-works during low inflows to the plant.</p> <p>Josh queries if the discharge will stop while this is being installed. Ed confirms any overflow will go into the storm water tank which is why they are doing it at night and turning off the power. Ed and Joemar confirmed there shouldn't be any major issues and it will be a relatively straight forward process.</p>	<p>Action</p>	<p>Due</p>
Porirua WWTP		
<p>Effluent consent compliance</p> <p>Julian – No issues, fully compliant.</p> <p>U.V Penstock repairs/Discharges</p> <p>Joemar, advised it has been reverted to normal operating channels and is being observed closely still. Waiting for supplier, Xylem, to summarise the findings to find out root causes.</p>		

<p>Will now investigate leaking bypasses in the TAK channel, the Veolia technical team are now managing this. Ed adds the Veolia technical team were onsite yesterday (Weds 21st June) and are currently working on a solution.</p> <p>The commissioning of the milliscreens due July 4th was delayed due to bad weather forecast. H2S monitors now arrived will go on site boundary to test the odour once milliscreens have been in play for a short while.</p> <p>Josh advised a decision on new resource consent was released Wednesday 21st June and Amanda will be in touch to discuss changing the current compliance to reflect the new consent. Josh suggests a meeting at Porirua WWTP to discuss this new consent with everyone to ensure transparency as to needs to change and what needs to be submitted/when.</p> <p>Joemar confirmed he has pre-arranged a meeting with Veolia to discuss this and will bring Amanda up to speed on the outcome of that when she and the team meet at WWTP to discuss the above (New Resource Consent)</p>		
Seaview WWTP Action Due		
<p><u>Effluent consent compliance</u></p> <p>Julian – Compliant, main outfall repair completed 5th June.</p> <p>Josh noted (<i>via Amanda</i>), that she thought the communications for the outfall repair was done well and was pleased with how WWL kept all parties in the loop.</p> <p><u>Odour Assessment update</u></p> <p>WWL have engaged a consultant to undertake the Seaview Odour Control Project. A meeting is set on 1st week of July to ensure everyone is on the same page and will advise GWRC.</p> <p>Monthly report will be prepared to update the status of the odour control project and this can be viewed via Seaview webpage on WWL website if required.</p> <p><u>Chlorine dosing status & consent update</u></p> <p>Josh advised on behalf of Amanda that she has completed 90% of this work and if required urgently she can get this memo expedited.</p> <p><u>Electrical update, power fluctuations, backup power project</u></p> <p>Joemar noted the completion of the investigation and is currently completing project brief. This is pending funding from the council and from there it can progress however, it is worth noting that as we are approaching the end of the financial year. If council provide funding, we must determine the funding for each project.</p> <p>Josh queries if the mussel sampling will continue. Joemar confirms Stantec completed an AEE and have provided their recommendation on the next steps for the samples.</p> <p><u>Deodorising update</u></p> <p>Josh states that technically as it is discharge to air there should be a resource consent and this should be easy process as it helps address odour. Regional public health confirmed there are no issues however, currently requires resource consent. This may need to change down the line to permit it.</p> <p>Josh notes this resource consent may not be a priority to GWRC.</p> <p>Josh adds we need to address the odour so keep deodoriser going as is but obtain a resource consent moving forward. A meeting will happen soon to discuss this further.</p> <p>Action: GWRC to provide a formal response on the next step in the use of deodorising agent in Seaview WWTP</p>		

General Business/other items	Action	Due
<p><u>Maintenance consent progress</u></p> <p>All parties agree to set-up a meeting to discuss the need for a consent for maintenance activities Joemar wants to set up an initial meeting to discuss this further and all agreed. Josh adds he was briefed by Jude on what's involved. Tim – happy to be part of these future meetings</p> <p>Action – Joemar to send out meeting invite</p> <p><u>Update on Actions (if required)</u></p> <p>Claire McKeivitt has left GWRC and confirmed all comms regarding Careys Gulley is now back with Josh in the interim.</p>	Joemar	3/07/2023
The meeting closed at 11:40am		

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, 27 July 2023, 11am-12pm

ACTIONS TABLE (ONGOING)

ACTION	DUE	REPONSIBILITY
Joemar will provide the latest results for all 4 treatment plants up until mid-June to GWRC	30 June 2023	Joemar
Joemar to send out meeting invite	03 July 2023	Joemar
Josh will provide update on draft investigation report (Moa)	12 July 2023	Josh
Julian to send Josh complaint numbers since non-compliant odour issues arose		Julian
WWL to advise GWRC know when scrubber cleaning is complete and ask Veolia to do TRS sampling to confirm improvement		WWL
Gordon to send Josh Veolia's IPS method statement of works (in the event of heavy rain) once it is ready.		Gordon
Josh to send through more details from colleague re odour complaint on 20/5		Josh
High level Seaview odour programme to Amanda		Joemar
Complete memo re consent with cl2 dosing		Amanda

Regional Wastewater Services MEETING MINUTES

Date:	25 May 2023
Subject:	GWRC Monthly Meeting
Time:	11:00am
Location:	MS Teams
Attendees:	GWRC – Amanda O’Brien, Jo Frances, Josh Knowles Veolia - Julian Villada, Edward Yong WWL - Blair Johnson (Chair), Craig Shuttleworth (Mins), Joemar Cacnio, Brooke Tatana
Apologies	Andressa Lage, Alex Phelan, Ben Bond

Relationships and communications	Action	Due
Blair began the meeting by introducing Brooke to GWRC and Veolia. Jo also introduced herself to WWL and Veolia.		
Moa Point WWTP	Action	Due
Effluent consent compliance – Julian advised the plant became non-compliant on 10/5 with Faecals due to UV issues but these have now been fixed and daily results are encouraging with them hopefully being compliant by mid-June. Julian also advised the plant had fallen out of compliance with odour, TRS tests last month revealed non-compliant results. They believe this is due to the scrubber system experiencing problems. ACTION - Daily results of effluent to be sent by Joemar to Josh in table format	WWL	June
Odour issues – Julian advised acid wash to scrubber system had begun, expected it to be completed within 2 weeks from now. Updated TRS test will be done once wash is complete. Josh asked if there had been a record being kept of complaints since to show the increase in odour complaints since these scrubber issues, Julian advised Josh he could send this across. ACTION – Julian to send Josh complaint numbers since non-compliant odour issues arose	Veolia	June
ACTION - WWL to advise GWRC know when scrubber cleaning is complete and ask Veolia to do TRS sampling to confirm improvement	WWL	June
IPS Repairs – Gordon advised there had been some scope amendments and that they’re still waiting on the risers/parts to be delivered. Meeting held with SMF team about working in proximity with other contractors doing the IPS etc. Bypass pumping was deemed not cost effective so Veolia to issue method statement on reinstating IPS in case of wet weather and high flows. Blair advised GWRC there is a risk workshop planned around this project. ACTION – Gordon to send Josh Veolia’s IPS method statement of works (in the event of heavy rain) once it is ready.	WWL	June

<p>Fire Investigation update – Blair advised that WW legal counsel has reviewed the report last week, there are several comments that he needs to clarify first but report shouldn't change substantially. He assured GWRC he would aim to move it along.</p> <p>Independent investigation – site visit last week, Josh not sure on date for the report to be produced but estimated 6-8 weeks.</p> <p>ACTION – Josh to find out and let Blair know when they can expect findings report</p>	GWRC	June
<p>Maintenance consent progress -</p> <p>Careys Gully current maintenance issues – Joemar advised 3 of the 4 Centrifuges are currently operational and can continue getting rid of sludge to keep MLSS down to near 3500. Josh noted there had been an odour complaint at the weekend and a council employee investigated noting that there was a vent on the facility that was particularly odorous. Joemar advised the building should be under negative pressure so this should not be happening and suggested there may have been a maintenance activity taking place at the time. Julian noted there wasn't any maintenance activities at that time. Joemar asked Josh to gather more information on what vent specifically it was so WWL could investigate it more thoroughly. Blair added biofilter media is being replaced so this should hopefully improve matters.</p> <p>ACTION – Josh to send through more details from colleague re odour complaint on 20/5</p>	GWRC	June
Western WWTP	Action	Due
<p>Effluent consent compliance – Fully compliant, no issues.</p> <p>Outfall Repair – No change, still being repaired and on track for July completion at this stage. Update email on project progress went out to Stakeholders on 24/5.</p>		
Porirua WWTP	Action	Due
<p>Effluent consent compliance – Fully compliant. No issues.</p> <p>U.V Penstock repairs/Discharges – Joemar advised there is a 9–10-week lead time with the parts for the outlet penstock. Project team looking into hydraulic issues, Veolia cleaning lamps on a weekly basis. Also looking at cleaning launders from algae. Amanda enquired over timeframe for repair. Joemar advised waiting for rain to happen then we will know. Blair acknowledged the improved focus by PMO on UV repairs since meeting with Amanda.</p> <p>ACTION – Joemar to get update from PMO for Amanda.</p> <p>Post UV Sampling outcomes – Amanda confirmed the sampling error was now cleared off.</p>	WWL	June
Seaview WWTP	Action	Due
<p>Effluent consent compliance – Fully compliant. 16/5 moved back into compliance, daily results have been good since petrol incident.</p> <p>Odour Assessment update – Joemar advised draft reports now in from 2 consultants, action items assigned to Veolia and PMO. Project brief been finalised.</p> <p>ACTION - Joemar to provide a high-level programme to Amanda</p>	WWL	June

<p>Chlorine dosing status & consent update – Memo sitting with GWRC, confirmed it is a permitted activity. Waiting for GWRC to formalise.</p> <p>ACTON – Amanda to complete memo</p> <p>Electrical update, power fluctuations, backup power project – Project brief end of June, completion expected 12 months away depending on funding</p> <p>Main Outfall Pipeline repair – Craig advised repair to commence on 29/5, Veolia to repair valve at pump station at the same time.</p>	GWRC	June
General Business/other items	Action	Due
<p>Mussel sampling – Joemar advised that moving forward WWL will engage specialist to conduct AEE. Statement of work to be provided to council.</p> <p>Deodorizer update – Amanda still sitting with GWRC. Blair advised WWL had discussed whether it would still be used or not and decided to keep deploying it. RPH have advised there is virtually zero impact on health to the public.</p>		
The meeting closed at 11:50am		

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, 22 June 2023, 11am-12am

ACTIONS TABLE (ONGOING)

ACTION	DUE	REPONSIBILITY
Daily results of effluent to be sent by Joemar to Josh in table format		Joemar
Julian to send Josh complaint numbers since non-compliant odour issues arose		Julian
WWL to advise GWRC know when scrubber cleaning is complete and ask Veolia to do TRS sampling to confirm improvement		WWL
Gordon to send Josh Veolia's IPS method statement of works (in the event of heavy rain) once it is ready.		Gordon
Josh to find out and let Blair know when they can expect findings report		Josh
Josh to send through more details from colleague re odour complaint on 20/5		Josh
Perirua UV/Penstock update to Amanda from WWL PMO		Joemar
High level Seaview odour programme to Amanda		Joemar
Complete memo re consent with cl2 dosing		Amanda

Regional Wastewater Services MEETING MINUTES

Date:	27 April 2023
Subject:	GWRC Monthly Meeting
Time:	11:00am
Location:	MS Teams
Attendees:	GWRC – Amanda O’Brien, Joe Edmonds, Jude Chittock, Ben Bond, Joshua Knowles Veolia - Alex Phelan, Julian Villada, Edward Yong WWL - Blair Johnson (Chair), Craig Shuttleworth (Mins), Joemar Cacnio
Apologies	Andressa Lage

Relationships and communications	Action	Due
Moa Point WWTP	Action	Due
<p>Effluent consent compliance – Julian advised Moa Point is non-compliant as of 19th April with 90th percentile limits for faecals due to spikes after the fire and several issues during March at Careys Gully with sludge accumulating in system. Heavy rain caused short and long outfall discharges on 19/4. Josh asked for confirmation that it is spikes rather than a trend. Julian confirmed this was the case and that MLSS was trending downwards.</p> <p>Clarifier #3 – Ed advised clarifier was re-commissioned last Friday (21/4), the Process has responded well. The variable speed drive (VSD) on one RAS pump is not working currently. Clarifier #2 will likely to be drained down next month to assess how much remedial works may be needed.</p> <p>ACTION – Ed to send Josh an email detailing the clarifier commissioning last week including dates/times etc</p> <p>IPS Repairs – Gordon advised the fabrication of the risers is now delayed, looking at 8-14 weeks. Julian explained why there was a short outfall discharge i.e., high flows coming into plant with 8 pumps only running but advised they now have 9 pumps running.</p> <p>Josh noted there is now increased interest surrounding these discharges from both councillors and the wider public. Blair acknowledged this and noted that it was a huge rain event and there were also excessive volumes in the network itself meaning it too experienced discharges. Ed explained one pump unexpectedly failed and that the other critical factor is the damaged riser pipework that is also failing causing output in one pump to be only around 200 litres per second.</p> <p>Fire Investigation update – Second draft received on 21/4, currently sitting with WW Health and Safety Manager, there are a couple of issues WW want to clarify first before issuing. The report needs to be cleared by Veolia and WW legal counsel before issuing.</p> <p>Careys Gully current maintenance issues – Ed advised 3 of the 4 centrifuges now running, 4th will be in action end of next week (early May). Polymer system now has redundancy, trying to remove</p>	Veolia	May

<p>as much sludge as possible to reduce MLSS. Site overall is operating satisfactorily at present. Ed explained they are relocating a lot of control systems to reduce corrosion from exposure to H2S gas.</p> <p>Biofilter – The Southern Landfill is manufacturing the mixture of media and by end of next week should start replacement for the first 2 filters after that.</p> <p>Cathodic protection (Outfall) – Joemar advised GWRC this is booked for next 2/5 to be inspected via a confined space entry.</p>		
<p>Western WWTP</p>	<p>Action</p>	<p>Due</p>
<p>Effluent consent compliance – Julian advised Western is compliant on all parameters currently. No issues. Consented discharge on 19/4 due to heavy rain.</p> <p>Outfall Repair – Josh – MOP – The Discharge form issued for the wet weather event states discharge is to the mouth of the outfall which is technically incorrect due to the MOP repair. So, this needs to be considered in terms of reporting compliance, as effluent is not reaching the end of the pipe due to the damage and is entering the stream further up. This is also receiving more scrutiny now from the public.</p>		
<p>Porirua WWTP</p>	<p>Action</p>	<p>Due</p>
<p>Effluent consent compliance – Julian advised Porirua is compliant on all parameters currently, 19/4 unconsented discharge due to failures with the UV System.</p> <p>U.V Penstock repairs/Discharges – Ed advised Xylem would be on site 28/4 to carry out a confined space entry to assess the rear penstock failure and hopefully fix it. Amanda queried if Operators understood the system asking why Veolia are getting contractors in. Ed and Blair advised they do, but the new UV channel (DURON) is still in the project phase, therefore in warranty and the project team must make sure the system is in full satisfactory working before signing it over.</p> <p>Joemar advised GWRC this matter has been escalated to the WW Major Project delivery team as its causing operational issues. This is being urgently pursued by WW to get MP team to work with Xylem to find a solution. Please Explain response Items 7/8 should be answered by next week.</p> <p>Post UV Sampling outcomes – Joemar advised mass balance results had already been given to GWRC, the leak repair still being investigated by project team and the Operators at the plant had been shown how to sample properly/compliantly to avoid further issues.</p>		
<p>Seaview WWTP</p>	<p>Action</p>	<p>Due</p>
<p>Effluent consent compliance – Julian advised Seaview is still non-compliant for faecal coliforms, but they have seen improved results in recent weeks. Veolia expect the plant to come into compliance end of May. Consented discharges in April.</p> <p>Joe advised that an infringement notice was to be sent out today regarding the Abatement notice from Nov – April for non-compliant effluent and that if there were any questions to let him know. Jude advised re payment of the infringement notices - they won't have PO's as they are fines.</p> <p>Alex noted a table of these notices sent across by Joe would be helpful, Joe acknowledged this.</p> <p>ACTION – WW to make sure Internal Accounts are aware of PO's not being present on fines.</p> <p>ACTION – Joe to send across notices in a table format to Alex</p>	<p>WW</p> <p>GWRC</p>	<p>May</p> <p>May</p>

<p>Odour Assessment update – Joe, 2 incidents of O&O beyond boundary. Infringement notices to be issued, one for both incidents. Joemar confirmed the odour specialist had finished their assessments conducted end of March till before Easter, just waiting on final results. It seems other sources of odour may be present. Biofilter being replaced, contractor preparing methodology on 27/4. Ed said control system report still being done, delayed due to reagent not being in stock to analyse tubes but confirmed there is a preservative in it to prevent degrading.</p> <p>ACTION – Craig to send through RPH reply to Joe/Amanda re deodoriser spray</p> <p>Chlorine dosing status & consent update – Joemar confirmed there was a meeting held 2 weeks ago, consultant needs to assess it as freshwater rules.</p> <p>ACTION – Joemar to provide memo to GWRC.</p> <p>Electrical update, power fluctuations, backup power project – Joemar confirmed there was a meeting yesterday – the effluent pump project, once complete, will enable the operators to reset it on Scada so it will reduce response time to restart pumps. Ed advised control system due to be completed by end of April, and that the valve for pump #2 isn't isolating. Veolia are planning to fix this valve at the same time as the MOP repair. Consultant doing backup power supply project brief expected end of June, with hope to start physical works by July.</p> <p>ACTION – MOP REPAIR UPDATE TO JOE/AMANDA</p>	<p>WW</p> <p>WW</p> <p>WW</p>	<p>May</p> <p>May</p> <p>May</p>
<p>General Business/other items</p>	<p>Action</p>	<p>Due</p>
<p>Incident/occurrence explanation response times – Jude advised 2 weeks should be enough time for a response and acknowledged response times to GWRC had recently been within the timeframe given so it was trending in the right direction.</p> <p>Draft odour notification process for discussion – Blair asked for comments to be emailed to him and noted that Bruce Hodgins (HCC) preference is that messaging to public is that individual councils are first avenue for complaints.</p> <p>Jude and Joe announced they were moving on from their roles at GWRC - both thanked Veolia/WW for their cooperation during their time in the positions. Blair acknowledged their hard work and expressed how they had both contributed to a positive working relationship. Blair wished them well on behalf of WWL with their next steps.</p>		
<p>The meeting closed at 12:10pm</p>		

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 25 May 2023, 11am-12am

ACTIONS TABLE (ONGOING)

ACTION	DUE	RESPONSIBILITY
Ed to send Josh an email detailing the clarifier commissioning last week including dates/times etc	May	Veolia - Ed
WW to make sure Internal Accounts are aware of PO's not being present on fines.	May	WW - Craig
Joe to send across notices in a table format to Alex	May	GWRC - Joe
Craig to send through RPH reply to Joe/Amanda re deodoriser spray	May	WW
Joemar to provide memo to GWRC re chlorine dosing and consent update	May	WW - Joema
MOP repair update to be provided to Amanda once known	May	WW - Craig

Bree Hartley

From: Amanda OBrien
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 11:28 am
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Official complaint about a breach to the Resource Management Act by the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant. [#7AAD4F]

Hi [REDACTED]

In response to your notification/complaint received Monday, 27 November 2023. My notes included along with some follow up:

- The consent was granted in 1996 well before the odour canon were in use. While the consent doesn't specifically relate to the odour canon, visible discharges should not occur as required in condition 19.
- The odour canon does require consent under our regional rules, it currently is not consented.
- GWRC have previously requested information around public risk and Regional Public Health have responded stating it is not a public health risk. Based on this information we deemed it low risk to allow the continue use of the odour canons in the form of mitigating odour without consent until a consent is lodged.
- The compliance officer has taken this complaint to assess next steps for compliance which to date has included discussions with WWL around the effectiveness of the odour canon in mitigating the odour and the best way to use the canon e.g. directly at the known source v high into the air (to ensure compliance with visible discharges under condition 19) and actions WWL need to take toward obtaining consent for odour canon use.
- Enforcement action is not being pursued for the use of the odour canon.

Cheers,

Amanda O'Brien, CEnvP, MSc, BSc(Hons)
Āpiha Matua – Aroturuki / Senior CME Advisor | Greater Wellington Te Pane Matua Taiao

From: Cari Kuske <Cari.Kuske@gw.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 8:11 AM
To: Amanda OBrien <Amanda.OBrien@gw.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Re: Official complaint about a breach to the Resource Management Act by the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant. [#7AAD4F]

Hey Amanda,

This notifier wants a written response with what you spoke to them over the phone regarding SWWTP odour blaster, are you able to assist?

Cheers

From: Info <Info@gw.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 7 December 2023 7:55 pm
To: Cari Kuske <Cari.Kuske@gw.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Re: Official complaint about a breach to the Resource Management Act by the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant. [#7AAD4F]

Kia Ora Cari,

I have looked up his ozone case, and it says you got back to him regarding his concerns.

But he would like what you said to him over the phone in writing.

The ozone case: 25540

Ngaa mihi nui,

Rebecca.

Contact Centre

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Te Pane Matua Taiao

100 Cuba Street, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11646, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

T: 0800 496 734

www.gw.govt.nz

Opening Hours, Monday to Friday 6am - 10pm, Saturday 7am-9pm, Sunday and Public Holidays 8am-8pm

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 7 December 2023 5:59:14 pm

To: "Info" <Info@gw.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: Official complaint about a breach to the Resource Management Act by the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant. [#7A10EG]

This is the 3rd time I have asked, can I please get a written response to my email.

On Sun, 3 Dec 2023, 4:41 pm [REDACTED] wrote:

Can I please get a written response to this?

On Tue, 28 Nov 2023, [REDACTED] wrote:

Can I please get a written response to this email please. I got a phone call today, thank you, but a written response is required

Thanks

[REDACTED]

On Mon, 27 Nov 2023, 8:20 pm Info, <Info@gw.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting Greater Wellington Regional Council, regarding breach of Resource Management Act by Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant.

I have forwarded your email to our team for their attention and follow up. They will be respond to your enquiry as soon as possible.

Please note your reference number for this enquiry is: 39707.

Should you have any further questions, in the meantime, please let us know.

Ngaa mihi nui,

Lafo

Contact Centre

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Holidays 8am-8pm

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 27 November 2023 8:05:54 pm

To: info@gw.govt.nz

Subject: Official complaint about a breach to the Resource Management Act by the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant.

I wish to lay a formal complaint about a serious breach to the Resource Consent WGN950162(01) for the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant.

[WGN950162 \[1\] Contaminants Discharge to Air WWTP \(Seaview WWTP\)](#)

In the additional conditions to Resource Consent WGN 950162 (01):
Condition 18 states that the opacity of all discharges from combustion applications and any sludge drier (excluding steam) shall not exceed 20%, except for a period of ten minutes for starting up from cold.

Condition 19 of the Resource Consent states that "There shall be no visible discharges, excluding water vapour or clean steam, from any activity on the site, excluding activities specified in condition 18"

However, for several years the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant has used "odour blasters", For examples: "This work may take up to three months to complete and we are running odour blasters during this time to help reduce the odour" : <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/about-us/news-and-media/news-and-media-2/seaview-wastewater-treatment-plant-odour-causing-a-stink/>.

However as you can see in the attached video footage of the odour blasters, which are located within the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant, the odour blasters emit a plume of clearly visible spray, which we have been advised is a chemical called Hi Chem Disinfectant Reodorant (quaternary ammonium compounds, alkylbenzyl dimethyl chloride.

This clearly breaches conditions 18 and 19 of the Resource Consent WGN 950162(01).

We would like to register this complaint formally, and be notified of the GWRC penalty for this infringement, and to ensure that this ceases immediately.

I can be contacted by email or phone [REDACTED]

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Bree Hartley

From: Amanda OBrien
Sent: Wednesday, 13 December 2023 2:46 pm
To: Joemar Cacnio; julian.villada@veolia.com; Avina Furtado
Cc: Blair Johnson; Alex Phelan; Nico Robins; Craig Shuttleworth
Subject: RE: WGN950162 Odour Canon Complaint

Hi Joemar

That is an accurate summary of our call. While not ideal being unconsented, the mitigation of odour is the primary concern at this juncture. The visual plume is in relation to the consent conditions and is required for all odour canons on site.

It is expected that WWL will initiate a specific pre application meeting for the odour canon air discharge consent in the new year.

Cheers,

Amanda O'Brien, CEnvP, MSc, BSc(Hons)

Āpiha Matua – Aroturuki / Senior CME Advisor | Greater Wellington Te Pane Matua Taiao

Mobile: 021 943 061

From: Joemar Cacnio <Joemar.Cacnio@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 2:36 PM
To: Amanda OBrien <Amanda.OBrien@gw.govt.nz>; julian.villada@veolia.com; Avina Furtado <Avina.Furtado@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Cc: Blair Johnson <Blair.Johnson@wellingtonwater.co.nz>; Alex Phelan <alex.phelan@veolia.com>; Nico Robins <Nico.Robins@veolia.com>; Craig Shuttleworth <Craig.Shuttleworth@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Subject: RE: WGN950162 Odour Canon Complaint

Hi Amanda,

Thanks for your call earlier.

As discussed, GWRC agrees to use the additional odour cannon as per the note below provided that no visible plume should be seen beyond the plant's boundary.

We will also look into relocating the current odour cannon so that no visible plume can be seen by the public.

If I missed anything or something needs to be clarified, feel free to reply on this email.

Kind regards,
Joemar

From: Joemar Cacnio
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 2:54 pm
To: Amanda OBrien <Amanda.OBrien@gw.govt.nz>; julian.villada@veolia.com; Avina Furtado <Avina.Furtado@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Cc: Blair Johnson <Blair.Johnson@wellingtonwater.co.nz>; Alex Phelan <alex.phelan@veolia.com>; Nico Robins <Nico.Robins@veolia.com>; Craig Shuttleworth <Craig.Shuttleworth@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Subject: RE: WGN950162 Odour Canon Complaint

Hi Amanda,

We are currently thinking of renting another unit of odour cannon until the completion of the biofilter media replacement. This is of similar size to the big one we have on site. This will be situated at the southern boundary of the site while the works is still ongoing.

Can you please confirm if this action is still covered with your statement below regarding the use of odour cannons.

Please feel free to call if you'd like to discuss.

Kind regards,
Joemar

From: Joemar Cacnio
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 1:34 pm
To: Amanda OBrien <Amanda.OBrien@gw.govt.nz>; julian.villada@veolia.com; Avina Furtado <Avina.Furtado@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Cc: Blair Johnson <Blair.Johnson@wellingtonwater.co.nz>; Alex Phelan <alex.phelan@veolia.com>; Nico Robins <Nico.Robins@veolia.com>; Craig Shuttleworth <Craig.Shuttleworth@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Subject: RE: WGN950162 Odour Canon Complaint

Thanks Amanda for the email below.

We have provided this to our RMA team and we're planning to discuss our plan for consenting in the new year. We will continue to use the odour cannon as per the note below that says:

"GWRC have previously requested information around public risk and Regional Public Health have responded stating it is not a public health risk. Based on this information we deemed it low risk to allow the continued use of the odour canons in the form of mitigating odour without consent until a consent is lodged"

[@julian.villada@veolia.com](mailto:julian.villada@veolia.com), can you please ensure this is included in the next quarterly report.

[@Avina Furtado](mailto:Avina.Furtado@veolia.com), can you please file this one.

Kind regards,
Joemar

From: Amanda OBrien <Amanda.OBrien@gw.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 12 December 2023 11:43 am
To: Joemar Cacnio <Joemar.Cacnio@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Cc: Blair Johnson <Blair.Johnson@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Subject: WGN950162 Odour Canon Complaint

Caution: This is an external email. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Joemar

Please ensure this complaint is documented against the consent compliance reporting.

We will be in touch again soon regarding a next steps for air discharge consent. I understand Blair was talking to WWL planners around the scope of this.

--

GWRC received a notification complaint about the odour canon on Monday 27 November 2023.

I wish to lay a formal complaint about a serious breach to the Resource Consent WGN950162(01) for the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant. [WGN950162 \[1\] Contaminants Discharge to Air WWTP \(Seaview WWTP\)](#)

In the additional conditions to Resource Consent WGN 950162 (01):

Condition 18 states that the opacity of all discharges from combustion applications and any sludge drier (excluding steam) shall not exceed 20%, except for a period of ten minutes for starting up from cold.

Condition 19 of the Resource Consent states that "There shall be no visible discharges, excluding water vapour or clean steam, from any activity on the site, excluding activities specified in condition 18".

However, for several years, the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant has used "odour blasters", For examples: "This work may take up to three months to complete and we are running odour blasters during this time to help reduce the odour" : <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/about-us/news-and-media/news-and-media-2/seaview-wastewater-treatment-plant-odour-causing-a-stink/>.

However, as you can see in the attached video footage of the odour blasters, which are located within the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant, the odour blasters emit a plume of clearly visible spray, which we have been advised is a chemical called Hi Chem Disinfectant Reodorant (quaternary ammonium compounds, alkylbenzyl dimethyl chloride).

This clearly breaches conditions 18 and 19 of the Resource Consent WGN 950162(01).

We would like to register this complaint formally, and be notified of the GWRC penalty for this infringement, and to ensure that this ceases immediately.

GWRC response to this notification: Initial phone conversation on Tuesday 28 November, with follow up email requested sent on 12 December 2023.

In response to your notification/complaint received Monday, 27 November 2023. My notes included along with some follow up:

- The consent was granted in 1996 well before the odour canon were in use. While the consent doesn't specifically relate to the odour canon, visible discharges should not occur as required in condition 19.
- The odour canon does require consent under our regional rules, it currently is not consented.
- GWRC have previously requested information around public risk and Regional Public Health have responded stating it is not a public health risk. Based on this information we deemed it low risk to allow the continued use of the odour canons in the form of mitigating odour without consent until a consent is lodged.
- The compliance officer has taken this complaint to assess next steps for compliance which to date has included discussions with WWL around the effectiveness of the odour canon in mitigating the odour and the best way to use the canon e.g. directly at the known source vs high into the air (to ensure compliance with visible discharges under condition 19) and actions WWL need to take toward obtaining consent for odour canon use.
- Enforcement action is not being pursued for the use of the odour canon.

Kind regards,



Amanda O'Brien, CEnvP, MSc, BSc(Hons)

Āpiha Matua – Aroturuki / Senior Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement Advisor,
Environmental Regulation

Greater Wellington Te Pane Matua Taiao

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