

## 23. CONSENTS TO DISCHARGE TREATED WASTEWATER TO ESTUARY

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The purpose of this report is to advise that the Environment Court has now considered and confirmed the negotiated amended conditions to the appealed consents to discharge treated wastewater to the estuary and that the consents are now operative.

### BACKGROUND

Councillors will recall that in May 2003 they received a report and agreed to a consent order to resolve the appeal against Resource Consent CRC012011, (Treated Wastewater Discharge to Estuary) with amended duration and with the conditions requiring ultraviolet treatment deleted.

It is pleasing to report that the Environment Court has now considered the matter and issued a consent order for the consents. Thus this consent and the associated ones are now operative. The duration of the main discharge consent is until the ocean outfall is commissioned and becomes operational, or 30 September 2009, whichever is the sooner. Ultraviolet treatment is not required for the discharge to estuary.

The consents stipulate a large number of technical requirements, mainly related to (water, air and estuary) quality monitoring. Much of this monitoring has been occurring as present practice, and arrangements are being put in place to ensure all consent conditions are complied with.

Key conditions are summarised in the attachment.

### SUMMARY

Resource consent conditions for the discharge of treated wastewater to the estuary until the ocean outfall is operative, (or 2009, whichever is sooner) have been finalised and consents are now operative. Work is proceeding to ensure all the requirements of these consents are being complied with.

### Chairman's

**Recommendation:** The information be received.