

2. CANTERBURY REGIONAL LANDFILL AND THE CAPACITY OF BURWOOD LANDFILL

As a result of detailed geotechnical investigations an unexpected earthquake fault was discovered running through the Trig site in the Malvern Hills. This made it unsuitable for landfill.

The Waste Manager resubmitted the report to the September 1999 Council and explained that Burwood had enough filling space available until 2006, whilst keeping within the existing resource consent height limits. As a last contingency plan beyond 2006, Burwood could continue to be filled and then the overfill removed to the regional landfill when it opens.

Subcommittee members were advised of the events leading to the decision of Transwaste Canterbury Ltd not to proceed further with the Trig site in the Malvern Hills. Mr Gareth James, Chief Executive Officer with Canterbury Waste Services Ltd, presented a report in further detail during the public excluded section of the meeting. The Subcommittee decided to put on record its appreciation of the immediate action by Transwaste Canterbury Ltd in deciding to abandon the Trig site when being made aware of the fault line.

Councillor Bill Woods advised of the following resolution of the Selwyn District Council:

“That the Selwyn District Council request the assistance of the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee to request Transwaste Canterbury Ltd that if a Canterbury landfill site is to be investigated, again they focus their investigations on areas other than those which may contaminate the aquifers across the Canterbury Plains.”