

## 10. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FUND REVIEW

The Subcommittee considered a report from Zefanja Potgieter, Resource Planner Solid Waste, Christchurch City Council, recommending that the community participation fund for the proposed Kate Valley landfill site not be put in place.

The report provided background to the decision taken by the Subcommittee on 16 November 1999 to establish a community participation fund for the "Trig site" to assist the local community in researching community issues that might not have been addressed in the Canterbury Waste Services Ltd investigations of this site.

The report noted that since the decision to abandon the "Trig site" the position had changed in that:

- The Kate Valley site was further down the investigation path from the "Trig site".
- Consultation was also much further advanced in respect to Kate Valley.
- There was widespread public concern about the perceived potential for a landfill at "Trig" to affect groundwater aquifers. This issue does not arise at Kate Valley.
- A recent household survey of households in the Waipara/Omihi area has indicated that most people are very well aware of the investigation process underway at Kate Valley, and have a good understanding of the resource management process that is involved.
- A new source of central government funding to assist community groups with applications under the Resource Management Act has since been established by Ministry for the Environment to help environment, community, iwi and hapu groups to participate more effectively in resource management processes by providing groups with funding to prepare, resolve and present cases before the Environment Court. The fund is available to any non-profit group that has a recognised legal status including incorporated societies and non-profit trusts and a maximum of \$20,000 per group per case applies.

The Subcommittee **resolved** that a Community Participation Fund for the proposed Kate Valley site not be put in place. It noted, however, that should the need arise the matter could again be reviewed by the Subcommittee if required.