

5. PROPOSED CANTERBURY NATURAL RESOURCES REGIONAL PLAN – FURTHER SUBMISSIONS

Officer responsible Director of Policy	Author Terence Moody, DDI 941-8834
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The purpose of this report is to consider the making of further submissions, in support of or opposition to submissions received by Environment Canterbury on the Canterbury Natural Resources Regional Plan. The period for making such further submissions closes at 5pm Friday 30 May 2003.

CONTEXT

This Council made submissions on some of the provisions of Chapter 1: Overview and Chapter 3: Air Quality of the Canterbury Natural Resources Regional Plan in August 2002 and has requested to be heard in regard to these matters. It is understood there were in the order of over 2,000 submissions received, although some of these are in the form of “coupon” submissions, and the summary of these submissions is contained in two volumes.

At this point no new matters may be raised. However, the Council can indicate its support or opposition to submissions already made with reasons for such support or opposition. Copies of such further submissions must be provided to the person or organisation on whose original submission the further submission relates.

DISCUSSION

Given the number of submissions made it is a somewhat daunting task to effectively consider in depth the majority of submissions as to the effects these may have on the submissions made formally by this Council. There are, however, a number that may have some significance in relation to those made by this Council and consideration could be given to making further submissions on these. A large number appear to object to provisions that have been supported by this Council but it is not considered useful or efficient to spend time on completing further submissions on some of these matters that will, in any case, be considered during hearings on the Plan.

The provisions of the Plan relating to the prohibition of some solid fuel burning appliances for domestic use have received a number of submissions but it is not considered, given the strong submission made by this Council to both the Plan provisions and the Clean Heat Project, that further submissions need to be made on these.

In the case of the use of standby diesel generators for network load shedding there are important sustainable and environmentally responsible implications of the proposed Plan provisions and these are possibly more important with the latest problems with electricity supply availability on a nationwide basis. Some other submitters have made submissions on these provisions and it is considered these could be supported to a large degree.

The Council made submissions on schedules to the proposed Plan and it is intended to examine the submissions made by other parties to determine whether there are any which could be supported or opposition expressed.

CONCLUSION

The Council could make further submissions in support or opposition of a limited number of the submissions received and contained in the summary of decisions requested as set out above.

Recommendation: That further submissions be made on a limited number of the decisions requested and these be prepared and approved by the Director of Policy in conjunction with the Chair of the Committee.