

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Board Secretary, John Shanks
Corporate Plan Output: Community Advocacy	

The attached letter from the Canterbury Regional Council advises of a proposed public hearing on the question of a domestic coal ban for Christchurch. This letter has been forwarded to the Community Board because the Board made a written submission to the Regional Council on the Draft Air Plan for Christchurch issued in 1998.

Board members will recall that the Canterbury Regional Council proposed to ban the domestic burning of coal in Christchurch last year. This action was successfully challenged by the Coal Producers’ Federation in the High Court which directed that the Regional Council should provide an opportunity to any interested parties to present their views on this matter, either supporting or opposing a domestic coal ban before the Council took any further action on this matter.

The Regional Council is, therefore, arranging a public hearing to allow interested parties to present their views.

The letter from the Regional Council is to invite the Community Board to indicate whether it wishes to be represented at a hearing on the domestic coal ban or, as an alternative, wishes to provide written comments.

A date for the proposed coal ban hearing has not yet been set. Those wishing to make submissions will be advised of the dates by which it will be necessary to provide written evidence and the procedures to be used at the hearing at a later date.

The domestic coal ban hearing is being run separately from the hearing of submissions on the Draft Air Plan.

Recommendation: That the Board consider whether it wishes to make submissions in due course to the Canterbury Regional Council on the domestic coal ban and whether it wishes to be heard in support of the submissions.

Chairman’s Recommendation: For discussion