

### 3. SELECTION OF A SITE FOR THE NEW CANTERBURY REGIONAL LANDFILL

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The purpose of this report is to recommend the selection of the Kate Valley site, Hurunui district, as the site for the new Canterbury Regional Landfill.

#### BACKGROUND

The process for a regional landfill for Canterbury can be traced back to July 1996 when the "Regional Waste Management Working Party" was established by Canterbury territorial local authorities. It had become clear that councils working independently to secure their own new refuse disposal sites was not a viable option. Extensive regional consultation with the public, territorial local authorities and other interested parties on future options for waste disposal in Canterbury was undertaken in late 1996 and 1997 leading on to the establishment of the Canterbury Waste Joint Standing Committee which was succeeded by the Canterbury Joint Standing Committee, and its subcommittee dedicated to regional waste issues, i.e. this Committee. Following a contestable process to choose the most suitable company to work with and a comprehensive period of evaluation and negotiation a joint venture partnership (Transwaste Canterbury Ltd) was established between six Canterbury territorial local authorities and two private sector companies with the aim to find, consent, develop and operate a new regional landfill. These tasks are being performed on behalf of Transwaste by Canterbury Waste Services Ltd.

Initial attempts to secure a new site initially focussed on the "Trig" site in the Malvern foothills but this proposal was abandoned in February 2000 when unsuitable geological conditions were discovered. Site investigations for the "Kate Valley" site in the area of the Hurunui District Council started in late 2000 and since March 2001 the Committee has received several detailed presentations by Canterbury Waste Services Ltd on progress with investigations as well as its consultation programme with the local communities and any other interested parties.

During December last year each of the participating councils having an interest in the landfill project were fully briefed by Canterbury Waste Services Ltd General Manager Gareth James. Each of these briefings were very comprehensive, taking about 4 hours including discussions. The Chairman of the Committee also attended most of the briefings. There were no significant issues raised during these briefings and it is clear that a recommendation to proceed with resource consents is fully supported by the councils concerned.

These presentations indicated that from an environmental point of view and also in economic terms as well as the favourable outcome of community consultation the Kate Valley site was very suitable. Canterbury Waste Services Ltd has recommended this site for the new regional landfill and that resource and other consent applications be prepared and lodged during the first half of 2002.

#### SUMMARY

Based on the extensive investigations culminating in summary presentations by Canterbury Waste Services Ltd. to individual participating councils and the Committee, it is clear that the Committee, which has delegated powers from its constituent member councils, should adopt the recommendations below.

- Recommendation:**
1. That Transwaste Canterbury Ltd be informed that the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee supports the Kate Valley site as the site for the regional landfill in Canterbury, and supports proceeding with the submission of the necessary resource consents.
  2. That the four nominee directors appointed by the Committee to the Transwaste Canterbury Ltd board be instructed to vote in favour of the company confirming the Kate Valley site for the regional landfill, and in favour of applications proceeding for the necessary resource consents.

#### Chairman's

**Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted.

(Note: As this item is one relating to the operation of Transwaste Canterbury Ltd in terms of clauses 3(a) and 11(a) of the constituting agreement, only those councils holding shares in the joint venture company may vote on this item.)