

Response ID ANON-URZ4-5FQE-6

Submitted to Fast-track approval applications
Submitted on 2024-05-03 13:59:10

Submitter details

Is this application for section 2a or 2b?

2A

1 Submitter name

Individual or organisation name:
Napier City Council

2 Contact person

Contact person name:
Andrew Lebioda

3 What is your job title

Job title:
3 Waters Programme Planner

4 What is your contact email address?

Email:
andrew.lebioda@napier.govt.nz

5 What is your phone number?

Phone number:
0272163198

6 What is your postal address?

Postal address:

Private Bag 6010
NAPIER 4142

7 Is your address for service different from your postal address?

Yes

Organisation:
Stradegy

Contact person:
Catherine Reaburn

Phone number:
0275566988

Email address:
catherine@stradegy.co.nz

Job title:
Associate | Planner

Please enter your service address:

PO Box 239
NAPIER 4140

Section 1: Project location

Site address or location

Add the address or describe the location:

94 Awatoto Road, Meeanee, Napier
294 Guppy Road, Taradale, Napier

File upload:

Borefields Location.png was uploaded

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Do you have a current copy of the relevant Record(s) of Title?

No

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Who are the registered legal land owner(s)?

Please write your answer here:

Napier City Council

Detail the nature of the applicant's legal interest (if any) in the land on which the project will occur

Please write your answer here:

o Awatoto borefield is located within a road reserve (an unused road parcel) at approx. 94 Awatoto Road, and this is therefore owned by Napier City Council.

o Taradale borefield is located within the Tereha Recreation Reserve at 274 Guppy Road, also owned by Napier City Council.

o No property acquisition or additional legal arrangements are likely to be required to facilitate the proposed water supply network upgrades.

Section 2: Project details

What is the project name?

Please write your answer here:

Taradale and Awatoto Borefields/Water Treatment Plants

What is the project summary?

Please write your answer here:

Napier City Council is proposing to increase the capacity at each of the existing borefield sites at Taradale and Awatoto to improve the supply, quality and resilience of the municipal water network for Napier City. This involves drilling up to three new bores at each site, decommissioning existing bores which are in poor condition with poor water quality and/or location constraints (or retaining for emergency purposes), and improvements to the water treatment plant(s).

What are the project details?

Please write your answer here:

The purpose of the project is to improve the water supply for Napier City, including providing resilient supply/capacity, and improved water quality (low manganese and iron). The following works are proposed:

- Two further bores at each site, with a third bore at each site as contingency, with a total delivery of up to 500l/s per borefield site
- Potential to utilise deeper aquifers for water sources at each of the sites, subject to further testing,
- The overall water volume will not exceed the parameters of the existing water take consent (AUTH-116128-04) (i.e. maximum 387,744m³ per 7-day period),
- New water treatment plant(s).

Describe the staging of the project, including the nature and timing of the staging

Please write your answer here:

The project is proposed to be delivered in two stages with Taradale the priority site for upgrading, to be undertaken in 2024-2025, and Awatoto in 2025-2026. Note should the project be accepted into the Fast-Track Approvals process, a single resource consent would be submitted for the full project.

What are the details of the regime under which approval is being sought?

Please write your answer here:

• RMA: Approvals (including resource consent and Notice of Requirement) are required under the Resource Management Act 1991. Resource consent is likely to be required under the Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan. Resource consent may also be required under the Napier District Plan. Preliminary analysis has identified resource consent may be required for:

- New network utility in a reserve
- Drilling new bores
- Variation to the municipal water take consent to introduce new points of take (or a new consent depending on scope matters)

Overall, resource consent is likely to be required as a Discretionary Activity.

Napier City Council may also seek to designate the borefields for water supply purposes through a Notice of Requirement.

Approval may also be required under s176 of the RMA for works within the Hawke's Bay Regional Council Designation D146 (Purpose: Soil conservation and river control), which runs immediately adjacent to 96 Awatoto Road.

If you seeking approval under the Resource Management Act, who are the relevant local authorities?

Please write your answer here:

Napier City Council and Hawke's Bay Regional Council

What applications have you already made for approvals on the same or a similar project?

Please write your answer here:

No other applications have been made for the project (Note: resource consents have previously been sought and obtained for the municipal water take, and for bores associated with the low manganese project).

Is approval required for the project by someone other than the applicant?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Regulatory approvals are required as outlined above.

If the approval(s) are granted, when do you anticipate construction activities will begin, and be completed?

Please write your answer here:

- o Detailed design: Late 2024-Early 2025
- o Procurement: Taradale – 2025, Awatoto - 2026
- o Funding: Napier City Council has allocated funding towards the project in the three year plan currently out for consultation.
- o Site works commencement: Following procurement.
- o Completion: duration of construction tbc.

Section 3: Consultation

Who are the persons affected by the project?

Please write your answer here:

Relevant local authorities:

Napier City Council and Hawkes' Bay Regional Council

Relevant iwi authorities:

Ngāti Kahungunu; Te Waiwhenua o Te Whanganui Ā Orotū

Relevant Treaty settlement entities:

Mana Ahuriri Trust

Protected customary rights groups: N/A

Customary marine title groups: N/A

Applicant groups under the Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Act 2011: N/A

Ngā hapū o Ngāti Porou: N/A

Any person with a registered interest in land that may need to be acquired under the Public Works Act 1981: N/A

Detail all consultation undertaken with the persons referred to above. Include a statement explaining how engagement has informed the project.

Please write your answer here:

A meeting has been held with the regulatory team of Hawke's Bay Regional Council as part of an initial piece of work to determine the planning context, the potential consenting pathway and the nature of technical assessment required to support the application. The project has been 'signaled' / 'introduced' to Mana Ahuriri Trust – with more meaningful engagement yet to commence.

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Describe any processes already undertaken under the Public Works Act 1981 in relation to the land or any part of the land on which the project will occur:

Please write your answer here:

N/A

Section 4: Iwi authorities and Treaty settlements

What treaty settlements apply to the geographical location of the project?

Please write your answer here:

The borefields are located within the Tamatea Pōkai Whenua (Heretaunga Tamatea Claims Settlement Act 2018) and Mana Ahuriri (Ahuriri Hapū Claims Settlement Act 1991) Areas of Interest.

In terms of Statutory Acknowledgement Areas:

1. The sites are in the proximity of Statutory Acknowledgement Area OTS-206-19 – Tutaekuri River and its Tributaries within the Area of Interest (Mana Ahuriri),
2. The Taradale site is within Statutory Acknowledgement Area OTS-110-25 - Tutaekuri River and its Tributaries within the Tamatea Pōkai Whenua Area of Interest (Tamatea Pōkai Whenua), while the Awatoto site is within the proximity of this area.

Napier City Council will engage with Mana Ahuriri and Tamatea Pōkai Whenua when preparing the required applications.

Are there any Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019 principles or provisions that are relevant to the project?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Are there any identified parcels of Māori land within the project area, marae, and identified wāhi tapu?

No

If yes, what are they?:

The sites are within the rohe of Ahuriri affiliated marae, including Waiohiki, represented by Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui a Orotū and the Awatoto borefield is located in proximity to Pukemokimoki (urban) marae, however there are no parcels of Māori land within the project area.

Is the project proposed on any land returned under a Treaty settlement or any identified Māori land described in the ineligibility criteria?

No

Has the applicant has secured the relevant landowners' consent?

Yes

Is the project proposed in any customary marine title area, protected customary rights area, or aquaculture settlement area declared under s 12 of the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004 or identified within an individual iwi settlement?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Has there been an assessment of any effects of the activity on the exercise of a protected customary right?

No

If yes, please explain:

Upload your assessment if necessary:
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Section 5: Adverse effects

What are the anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment?

Please describe:

Well interference:

- o Assuming the new bores are screened in the same aquifer as the existing bores within the municipal bore field, there may be drawdown effects on these existing municipal water take bores. The effect of this is expected to be manageable with sufficient head of water above the screens.
- o Drawdown effects on other bores not associated with the municipal water take are likely to be minor due to the separation distances.
- o Targeting a deeper aquifer, up to 150m – 170m in depth is expected to reduce the potential for drawdown effects.
- o Technical assessment will be undertaken to assess and support the application.

Stream depletion:

- o There is a risk of increased stream depletion due to higher pumping at Taradale near the Tutaekuri River. The degree of hydraulic connection will be assessed through bore drilling and testing to support the resource consent application.
- o Drilling into deeper aquifers may reduce the risk of stream depletion by reducing the hydraulic connection and potential effects on the Tutaekuri River compared with further utilization of the Taradale aquifer.
- o At Awatoto, the risk of increased stream depletion effects is lower due to the deeper aquifer and greater thickness of confining strata, and further distance from Tutaekuri River.
- o Technical assessment will be undertaken to assess and support the application.

Saline intrusion:

- o Saline intrusion is not considered to be a risk at Taradale due to the distance from the coast.
- o This is a relevant consideration for Awatoto. Further assessment will be undertaken to assess and support the resource consent application; however it is envisaged that a case specific framework can be developed to manage any such potential effects in this regard.

Aquifer sustainability:

- o As the proposal is not expected to result in an increase to the overall rate and quantity of take approved in the existing municipal water take consent, there are not expected to be any additional impacts on aquifer sustainability.

Cultural values:

- o Additional effects on freshwater including the aquifer and the Tutaekuri River would also have effects on the cultural values associated with those waterbodies, including the mauri, acknowledging the interconnectedness between groundwater, river and the coast.
- o Napier City Council will engage with mana whenua to gain a fuller understanding of potential effects on cultural values in advance of the resource consent lodgement.

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Section 6: National policy statements and national environmental standards

What is the general assessment of the project in relation to any relevant national policy statement (including the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement) and national environmental standard?

Please write your answer here:

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPSFM)

- o The NPSFM sets objectives and policies for the management of freshwater quality and quantity. The new NPS FM seeks to manage freshwater in a way that:
 - first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems; and,
 - second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water); and,
 - third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.
- o The NPS FM seeks to give effect to Te Mana o te Wai and ensure that Tangata Whenua are actively involved in freshwater management (including decision-making processes), and Māori freshwater values are identified and provided for. Te Mana o te Wai is the fundamental concept of the NPS FM and sets out the hierarchy of obligations that are contained within the above objective.
- o Further testing and analysis is required to understand any additional effects on the aquifer and Tutaekuri River as a result of the proposed additional bores. The overall rate and volume of take is not expected to exceed what is provided for in the existing municipal water take consent, therefore the overall health of the waterbodies should not be compromised. However, the rate of pumping and location of bores may have a different profile of impacts.
- o Napier City Council will engage with mana whenua in developing the application.

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Section 7: Eligibility

Will access to the fast-track process enable the project to be processed in a more timely and cost-efficient way than under normal processes?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

The project requires resource consents (that may trigger notification depending on the extent of effects and affected parties), and potentially a Notice of Requirement. The overall timeframes for these approval processes, should they be notified, would likely significantly exceed 6 months, including through allowance for a hearing(s) and the risk of rights of appeal. The fast-track process is appropriate as it will facilitate a streamlined process that enables comments from stakeholders to be received and considered, while ensuring that conditions address potential environmental effects.

What is the impact referring this project will have on the efficient operation of the fast-track process?

Please write your answer here:

This is a discrete project with confined assessment matters and potentially affected parties. This will enable an efficient fast-track process to achieve the benefits of the project without significant demand on the overall operation of the fast-track process system.

Has the project been identified as a priority project in a:

Local government plan or strategy

Please explain your answer here:

The project is a priority project for Napier City Council. Additional funding has been included in the three year plan currently out for consultation.

Will the project deliver regionally or nationally significant infrastructure?

Regional significant infrastructure

Please explain your answer here:

The proposed municipal water take upgrade works will significantly improve the resilience and quality of the Napier water supply network, providing significant benefits to the existing community and enabling further urban growth to be supported to meet regional housing and economic development needs.

Will the project:

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project deliver significant economic benefits?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project support primary industries, including aquaculture?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project support development of natural resources, including minerals and petroleum?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project support climate change mitigation, including the reduction or removal of greenhouse gas emissions?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project support adaptation, resilience, and recovery from natural hazards?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Drilling deeper water supply bores is anticipated to provide greater resilience in respect to groundwater levels. High yielding groundwater resources in Napier are generally found on lower lying plains. With this comes a flood risk (including from increased high intensity rainfall events) and in the case of the Awatoto site, a Near Source Tsunami Inundation risk. These are essentially the same risks that much of the broader Napier area is subject to and will be considered in the design of the infrastructure concerned to ensure a resilient water supply source for the city.

Will the project address significant environmental issues?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Is the project consistent with local or regional planning documents, including spatial strategies?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Municipal water supply is supported by the local and regional planning documents.

Anything else?

Please write your answer here:

Does the project includes an activity which would make it ineligible?

No

If yes, please explain:

Section 8: Climate change and natural hazards

Will the project be affected by climate change and natural hazards?

Yes

If yes, please explain:

o Drilling deeper water supply bores is anticipated to provide greater resilience in respect to groundwater levels.
o High yielding groundwater resources in Napier are generally found on lower lying plains. With this comes a flood risk and in the case of the Awatoto site, a Near Source Tsunami Inundation risk. These are essentially the same risks that much of the broader Napier area is subject to and will be considered in the design of the infrastructure concerned.

Section 9: Track record

Please add a summary of all compliance and/or enforcement actions taken against the applicant by any entity with enforcement powers under the Acts referred to in the Bill, and the outcome of those actions.

Please write your answer here:

Napier City Council, as a local authority, is a responsible entity committed to achieving compliance and quality environmental outcomes for the community.

There have nevertheless been isolated instances of non-compliance with resource consent conditions over the years. These primarily relate to infrastructure funding and maintenance challenges (with respect to compliance with regional council discharge consents) and management of contractors for the delivery of projects – with matters generally being worked through a proactive and constructive manner with the Regional Council. Further information can be provided on request.

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Declaration

Do you acknowledge your submission will be published on environment.govt.nz if required

Yes

By typing your name in the field below you are electronically signing this application form and certifying the information given in this application is true and correct.

Please write your name here:

Catherine Reaburn

Important notes