

Notification of summary of submissions

Whangarei District Council gives notice that it has prepared a **summary** of all decisions requested by people making submissions on the following proposed plan change:

Plan Change 131 – Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO): The Plan Change has been developed collaboratively over the past 10 years. During this time the community has voiced concerns to the Council on the risks of the outdoor use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in a number of different forums. In response to these concerns an Inter-Council Working Party ('the Working Party') on GMO Risk Evaluation and Management Options was formed in 2003. The Working Party is made up of the councils in Northland and Auckland. The Working Party determined that GMOs are a significant resource management issue in the northern region and that a precautionary approach to the outdoor use of GMOs is desired by the community.

Plan change 131 proposes to insert a new chapter and new definitions into the Whangarei District Council Operative District Plan. The following summarises the proposed provisions:

- The creation of a district wide GMOs chapter to be inserted into the District Plan that includes:
 - A description of the purpose and expectations of the new GMO chapter, which is to manage the outdoor use of GMOs.
 - Eligibility rules that outline what GMO activities are covered and what GMO activities are not covered by the new provisions.
 - Notification criteria, which states that all applications for resource consent under the proposed GMO provisions must be publicly notified.
 - Objectives specifying outcomes sought for the outdoor use of GMOs.
 - Policies specifying courses of action to achieve outcomes sought for the outdoor use of GMOs.
 - Information requirements for applications for GMO field trials.
 - General development and performance standards outlining minimum controls without limiting the discretion reserved to Council.
 - Particular matters to be considered when determining the amount of bond required and a monitoring strategy for a GMO discretionary activity.
- New definitions to be inserted into chapter 4, meaning of words in the District Plan for the following terms:
 - Field Trials (tests)
 - Genetically Modified Organism and GMO
 - Release
 - Environmental Protection Authority and EPA
 - Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act and HSNO

The Council has resolved to double the submission period for Plan Change 131 in accordance with section 37 of the Resource Management Act 1991 from 10 working days to 20 working days.

Public Inspection

The summary of submissions and copies of the full submissions may be inspected from **Tuesday 18 November 2014** onwards at Whangarei District Council Service Centres at Forum North, Rust Avenue, Whangarei; Ruakaka Service Centre, Takutai Place, Ruakaka; Whangarei Central Library, Rust Avenue, Whangarei; Kamo Library, Kamo Road, Kamo; Onerahi Library, Commins Road, Onerahi; Tikipunga Library, Paramount Parade, Tikipunga; and on Council's website at www.wdc.govt.nz/districtplan.

Please contact Council's Policy and Monitoring Department if you have any questions about the proposal.

Further submissions

Any person representing a relevant aspect of the public interest; any person who has an interest in the proposed plan change greater than the interest that the general public has; and Whangarei District Council itself may make further submissions. A further submission must be limited to a matter in support or in opposition to the relevant submission. The person making a further submission must within five (5) working days of making the further submission to Council, serve a copy of the further submission on the submitter to which the further submission relates.

Further submissions must be made in writing. Further submission forms are available at the locations listed above, or by contacting Council's Policy and Monitoring Department. Please use the form provided, or a

similar format that complies with Resource Management Act regulations.

The closing date for further submissions is Tuesday 16 December 2014.

Further submissions should be sent to

Whangarei District Council
Private Bag 9023
WHANGAREI 0148
Attention: Policy and Monitoring Department
Fax: (09) 438 7632

delivered to Whangarei District Council Offices, Forum North, Rust Avenue, Whangarei or emailed to mailroom@wdc.govt.nz.

This notice is given pursuant to Clause 7 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991.

The Leader 18 November 2014