



Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment

Te Kaitiaki Taiao a Te Whare Pāremata

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Allan Prangnell

The Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai

By email: [REDACTED]

28 March 2025

Re: Proposed wastewater environmental performance standards

Tēnā koe Allan

Under the Environment Act 1986, I am charged with providing a range of advice to Parliament on matters where the environment may be or has been adversely affected. This includes providing submissions on proposed policy changes. The current consultation on the proposed wastewater environmental performance standards is one of them.

As part of preparing my submission, I am inquiring into the likely environmental impact of the proposed standards.

Could you please supply me with the following information for each of the wastewater treatment plants that the proposed standards will apply to:

- details of the current standards, limits and conditions that each plant operates under;
- a comparison showing whether the proposed standards (with a particular focus on the proposed discharge to water and discharge to land standards) are more or less stringent than the current standards, limits or conditions for discharges currently set for each wastewater treatment plant;
- analysis showing how the proposed standards (with a particular focus on the proposed discharge to water and discharge to land standards) will affect the discharges to receiving environments. I am particularly interested in whether the existing state of that receiving environment will likely get better or worse under the new standards.

I am making this request under section 19 of the Environment Act 1986, if the information requested could please be provided by Thursday 10 April. Please contact my team ([REDACTED]) if you would like to discuss the detail and format of the information requested.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Upton

Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment
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