

10 October 2014



Brenda O'Shaughnessy
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File ref: RAI 04 07
2014
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Dear Brenda

PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 38

Please find enclosed Horizons Regional Council's submission to Proposed Plan Change 38. Horizons wishes to be heard in respect to this submission.

Horizons supports this Proposed Plan Change and considers that it gives effect to the regional policy framework for natural hazards set out in Chapter 10 of the One Plan.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Penelope Tucker".

Pen Tucker
POLICY ANALYST

Encls. Submission on Proposed Plan Change 38

Kairanga

Marton

Palmerston North

Taihape

Taumarunui

Wanganui

Woodville

Resource Management Act 1991

Submission on a Publicly Notified Plan Change to the Wanganui District Plan

In accordance with Form 5 – RM (Forms, Fees and Procedure) Regulations 2003

To: Wanganui District Council
PO Box 637
Wanganui

Name: Horizons Regional Council (Horizons)

Contact Person: Pen Tucker, Policy Analyst

This is a submission on: **Proposed Plan Change 38 – Land Stability Assessment Areas (Stage 2)**

1. Horizons **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
2. Horizons **does** wish to be heard in support of this submission.
3. Horizons' officers would welcome any opportunity to attend informal or formal pre-hearing meetings with Wanganui District Council and other parties to discuss points of contention.
4. If others make a similar submission Horizons **would** be prepared to consider presenting a joint case with them to any hearing.

Status of the Proposed One Plan

5. As this submission will refer to provisions in the Proposed One Plan (POP), it is appropriate to provide a brief summary of the current status of this Plan. All appeals to the Environment Court and High Appeal were fully resolved in May 2013, and the amendments agreed through mediation have now all been confirmed by consent order. All amendments recorded in the Proposed One Plan as Amended by Environment Court Decisions (available on Horizons' website but not as a formal, printed version) therefore now have legal effect. Although the POP has not been made operative by Council, the policy framework now has legal effect. While it should still be considered in conjunction with the operative policy framework in practice we find that the policy framework in the operative Regional Policy Statement is given virtually no weight, because the POP is now so close to becoming operative, is more up-to-date, and has been through extensive community and judicial scrutiny recently.
6. It is anticipated that the One Plan will be fully operative before the end of 2014.

Submission

7. Horizons supports Proposed Plan Change 38 – Land Stability Assessment Areas (Stage 2). The proposed amendments to the District Plan will give effect to the POP regional policy framework for natural hazards set out in Chapter 10, specifically Policy 10-1 Responsibilities for natural hazard management and Policy 10-5 Other types of natural hazards.

8. As set out in Table 1 of the Section 32 report (updated in October 2014), under POP Policy 10-1 the District Council holds the responsibility for developing objectives, policies and methods (including rules) for controlling land use to avoid, remedy or mitigate natural hazards. The suite of objectives and policies addressing natural hazards, and the rules for the Land Stability Assessment Areas, give effect to Policy 10-1.

9. Table 1 also considers POP Policy 10-5, which requires Horizons and the District Council

to manage future development and activities in areas susceptible to natural hazards events... in a manner which:

(a) ensures that any increase to that any increase in risk to human life, property or infrastructure from natural hazard events is avoided where practicable, or mitigated where the risk cannot be practicably avoided

...

(c) is unlikely to cause a significant increase in the scale or intensity of natural hazard events.

Proposed Plan Change 38 will enable the District Council to manage the effects of future development and activities in the Land Stability Assessment Areas through resource consents, thereby giving effect to Policy 10-5.

10. **Address for Service:** Horizons Regional Council
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Signed:


Nic Peet
GROUP MANAGER STRATEGY AND REGULATION

Dated: 10 October 2014