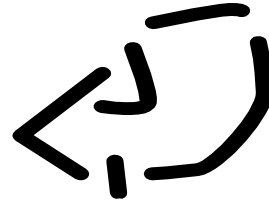
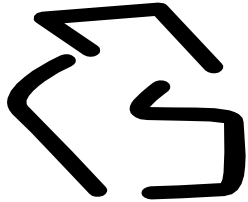
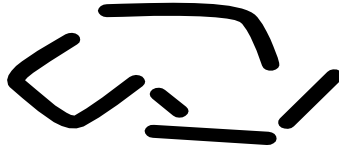


WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES



8.0 INTRODUCTION

Waste Management

Waste is broadly defined as “materials for which there is no current or near future economic demand and for which disposal may be required”.

Waste management is seen as a significant resource management issue in the Gisborne District. The community wish to see more efficient use of resources, reduction in the cost of handling waste and the need for disposal sites, minimal contamination of the districts

natural resources from the disposal of waste and culturally inoffensive methods of waste disposal to be adopted.

The international waste management hierarchy is mentioned extensively in this section. This is the concept of:

- *reduction of waste generated*
- *re-use of waste resources*
- *recycling of waste resources*
- *recovering of resources from waste*
- *treatment and disposal of residual waste*

Each stage is regarded as more effective, and therefore more important, than those below it, in reducing the environmental effects of waste.

At present the knowledge of what waste is being produced in the District by whom and how it is disposed of is based on findings from a waste stream survey undertaken in 1987. The results from this survey are now dated and inadequate as the survey did not assess all types of waste or all waste generators. It was prepared prior to Local Government reorganisation and included areas that are now in the Bay of Plenty region.

It is well recognised that before wastes can be efficiently managed there is a need to know what is being produced. The available data for this District is deficient.

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The Ministry for the Environment recognised a national lack of reliable data and saw this as impeding effective waste management. The Ministry released in 1992 “The New Zealand Wastage Analysis Protocol” as a guide to obtaining reliable waste stream information.

There have been significant technological advances in the waste management field. It is important that the most efficient and effective methods are identified for consideration for this District’s waste stream.

Tangata Whenua Concerns

Waste and its disposal is of great concern to tangata whenua. In the traditional Maori view everything in the natural world possesses mauri (physical life force). Preservation of the mauri of any element of the natural world is essential for its survival.

It is fundamental that any human use of a resource does not affect its mauri. Current waste disposal methods contravene the spiritual and cultural values of tangata whenua. The discharging of waste into local waterways used for human consumption or from which food is gathered is a significant resource management issue.

Water provides Maori with food and spiritual resources. These resources are directly impacted on when subject to various degrees of pollution especially with regard to the mauri of those resources. Any impact on waters seriously restricts Maori use of them, eg polluted food cannot be used for hui with respect to manaaki ki nga manuhiri, forcing tangata whenua to purchase food. Any spiritual impact on the mauri of the water has an impact on waahi tapu, areas

used for healing and cleansing, tohi and purification rites. Those consulted want the degradation of tribal waters to be stopped.

Hazardous substances

Hazardous substances are any substances which may pose threats to the environment, to human, plant or animal health. They are often equated with hazardous waste but the risks can arise at any time during the existence of such a substance, from production, storage, transport, use and disposal. Hazardous substances include all hazardous wastes (hazardous materials that are regarded as waste) and also substances that are not waste but because of their physical or chemical properties pose a risk.

8.1 PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS GENERATE EXCESSIVE WASTE. THIS CAN RESULT IN ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Explanation

Waste minimisation techniques are those aimed at reducing the volume and/or toxicity of waste and generally are either waste reduction or recycling techniques.

In the past the general attitude to waste management in the community has been “what to do with the wastes we have produced”. Responsibility in and near urban areas has been accepted largely by local government. Producers of waste have not had to consider the consequences of waste production. Where local authorities have been unable to accept all wastes or deal with them satisfactorily, then environmental effects have occurred, occasionally severe.

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There is a need for a general change in attitude, to one of “how to avoid waste” before we think about how to dispose of it. This change in attitude could have economic as well as environmental advantages.

Minimising waste may enable economic use of some present wastes, by re-use and recycling. It will also lead to less demand on natural resources for the creation of new products.

Organic waste makes a significant contribution to this district’s waste stream. One means of reducing the amount of this waste, much of which presently goes to the refuse tip, is to compost the appropriate material for re-use. There is general community support for establishing a composting operation.

Several local industries, schools and charities receive or collect recyclable goods. A kerbside recycling trial was undertaken in 1992 at Wainui for 12 months which demonstrated community support for recycling. Recycling, being dependent on the re-use of collected products, is subject to fluctuating markets. Gisborne’s size and distance to major recyclers means the economics of recycling locally are variable.

8.1.1 Objective

1. Reduction in the quantity of solid, hazardous and liquid waste generated in the region and consigned for disposal or discharged into the environment .

8.1.2 Policies

1. To vigorously apply the international waste minimisation hierarchy.
2. As far as practicable, to make generators of waste responsible for the costs of their wastefulness.
3. To actively encourage re-use, recycling and resource recovery of materials where practicable.
4. To set waste reduction targets based on information gathered on wastes generated and disposed of within the region.
5. To actively promote and apply the principles of cleaner production.
6. To provide leadership by example in the reduction of waste.

8.1.3 Reasons for Objective and Policies

Large scale waste generation is unsustainable:

- *because of the depletion of natural resources.*
- *because of the effects on the environment from disposal, e.g.. loss of land, discharges to air and water, unsightliness.*
- *because of costs of disposal, e.g.. land, energy, labour, equipment. (Objective)*

The policies are intended to implement the international waste minimisation hierarchy. Each step in this hierarchy is regarded as more effective than those below it in reducing effects of waste management.

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Reduction in wastes at source reduces the total pool of wastes to be managed. Producers may need to be encouraged, or required to achieve this where they do not see it as being in their own immediate best interest. Direct re-use of materials where possible is cost-effective especially in energy terms because the material is substantially unchanged. Recycling has a high public profile and can be practical, but has high energy, storage and transport costs and markets are not always available. Resource recovery - e.g. methane gas collection from landfills, or composting also has a number of advantages, in reducing demand for raw materials, volume of waste for disposal and effects of disposal, but can also have costs. Thus collection of accurate information and careful consideration of costs and benefits, are essential to implement the waste management hierarchy. (Policies 1-6)

Alternatives considered

Do Nothing

This would result in the quantity of waste material for disposal staying the same or continuing to grow. Adverse effects on the environment from disposal would continue, and would require spending to avoid remedy or mitigate. There would be no opportunity to conserve economic resources by reducing avoidable consumption. This is not considered to be sustainable. The only saving from doing nothing would be in staff costs for the advisory and educational work proposed.

Others

No alternative objectives and policies are considered possible that are substantially different from those listed and which would meet the requirements of the Act.

Costs and Benefits

The benefits of the selected approach are expected to be greater and the costs less than the alternatives considered.

8.2 THE TRANSPORTATION, TREATMENT, DISPOSAL AND STORAGE OF SOLID WASTE, INCLUDING WASTE FROM MARINE OPERATIONS, CAN HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS OR POSE A RISK TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Explanation

As at 1993 the District has 6 waste disposal sites (Paokahu, Ruatoria, Te Puia Springs, Tikitiki, Whatatutu and Te Araroa) with 3 transfer stations (Tolaga Bay, Te Karaka, Matawai). The intention is to eventually have two sanitary landfills, Paokahu and Ruatoria, with refuse collected from transfer stations disposed of at either landfill.

The waste disposal sites, including some sites now closed, are often poorly sited with the potential to contaminate land and water resources. Their continual management needs to ensure appropriate rehabilitation.

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

The Paokahu site has limited life as at 1993 and extensions are proposed. Environmental problems associated with the original site's operation will need addressing including leachate control, odour, control of wind blown debris, disposal of hazardous waste and loss of visual amenity.

The burning of waste is carried out at refuse tips to reduce the volume of waste. Often the substances being burnt are unknown and the burning temperature means some materials may release toxic emissions. The burning of waste in residential areas and as a land clearing practice can cause localised air pollution problems.

The dumping of rubbish on roadsides or reserves is a continual problem which has adverse effects on the environment.

The disposal of rubbish from marine operations has the potential to cause serious adverse effects and is likely to be dealt with through the Maritime Transport Act and subsequent Marine Protection Rules.

8.2.1 Objective

1. No adverse environmental effects caused by inappropriate disposal of residual solid wastes.

8.2.2 Policies

1. To provide for collection and disposal of solid wastes for those communities where an adverse effect on their environment would result, or has resulted through non-collection of solid wastes.

2. To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of existing or former landfill and waste disposal sites, including those of leachate on land and water.
3. To ensure that new landfills are sited and operated so as to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse environmental effects, to maximise efficient use of the District's resources and to avoid the proliferation of contaminated sites.
4. To minimise the adverse effects of waste ozone depleting substances on the atmosphere.
5. To minimise obnoxious odours from landfills and composting plants.
6. To reduce the greenhouse impact and potential for explosions from landfill gas.
7. To ensure that all people engaged by Council in its function as a territorial authority, or by private operators in the management and/or operation of landfills receive training which recognises and incorporates the complexity and sophistication of modern landfilling techniques.
8. To recover the costs of waste disposal from users.
9. To avoid the disposal of solid waste to the Coastal Marine Area.
10. To ensure that all collection and transportation of solid waste is carried out in a manner which avoids, remedies or mitigates adverse environmental effects and minimises any potential for nuisance conditions.

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

8.2.3 Reasons for Objectives and Policies

Much of this chapter is based upon data and information contained in reports prepared for the Regional Waste Management Strategy.

Many of the Objectives and Policies in the Provisional Waste Management Strategy have been carried into this chapter in order to achieve consistency between the two documents.

While the primary focus of waste management in the district is to be on minimising waste, it is recognised that there will continue to be some solid wastes requiring disposal. The objective focuses on providing an appropriate system for collecting and disposing of remaining solid wastes without adverse effects.

New, existing and older landfill sites will continue to create adverse effects such as discharges to air and water, health and safety problems, unless carefully managed. The policies focus on appropriate collection and disposal systems without adverse effects. In particular they recognise that there will be a need for careful management of new, existing and former landfill sites to avoid adverse effects such as proliferation of sites, and discharges to land, air and water (policies 1-7). It is not fair to spread the costs of waste disposal across the entire community through rates because some areas receive no service and because some people make less use of the service. User charges also provide an incentive to reduce waste. (Policy 8)

Policy 9 gives effect to Policy 3.2.2 of the NZCPS and is necessary in order to provide recognition of the fact that marine operations can have adverse effects on the environment.

Alternatives considered

Do Nothing

Even with waste minimisation there will inevitably be some solid waste requiring disposal. To do nothing would allow adverse effects on the environment from disposal to continue, from both former and current sites. This is not considered to be sustainable.

Regulation

The selected means focus on providing correctly managed collection and disposal facilities, in built-up areas. An alternative would be to allow people and businesses to dispose of their own wastes but subject to controls preventing adverse effects. The number of sites that result, the quantities of waste involved and the costs of enforcing such a system would make it extremely difficult to avoid adverse environmental and health effects. However some larger businesses in particular may wish to consider managing and disposing of their own wastes, and the objectives and policies stated will be used as a guide for assessing such applications.

Costs and Benefits

The benefits of the selected approach are expected to be greater and the costs less than the alternatives considered.

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

8.3 HAZARDOUS WASTES CAN BE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TO DISPOSE OF AND IF INCORRECTLY DISPOSED OF CAN SUBSTANTIALLY DAMAGE THE ENVIRONMENT

Explanation

It is generally accepted that a hazardous waste is any waste that poses a present or future threat to humans or the environment. More specifically hazardous wastes are unwanted materials that exhibit hazardous characteristics such as corrosiveness, explosiveness, reactivity, flammability or radioactivity or otherwise have the potential to damage human, animal and other species.

In the absence of an accurate assessment of the hazardous substances being used and hazardous waste being produced the scale of the problems of disposal in this district is not known. Currently there is a hazardous substance audit being carried out on local industries. Hazardous substances are used by agricultural, horticultural, forestry and industrial sectors and commonly used domestic products contain hazardous substances. Most of this hazardous waste is disposed of at rubbish tips or into the sewer. Some quantities remain unused, stored on properties which is particularly common with agrichemicals. There have been problems in past floods where hazardous substances were affected and damaged and their safe disposal became an issue.

There will continue to be a need for the disposal of hazardous waste and the proposed sanitary landfills at Paokahu and Ruatoria could be equipped for hazardous waste treatment and storage and as co-disposal sites.

8.3.1 Objective

1. Protection of human health and the environment from the actual and potential adverse effects arising from storage, transport, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes.

8.3.2 Policies

1. To encourage those involved in the production of widely used products whose disposal is of particular threat to the environment to take back unwanted product and used containers.
2. To ensure that all hazardous wastes are disposed of in a manner and facility approved by the Council.
3. To provide effective facilities for recording, managing and disposing of hazardous wastes.
4. To ensure all hazardous wastes generated in the district are treated, as and when appropriate, to a state where they are fit for the proposed method of disposal.
5. To develop, implement and monitor rules and guidelines identifying approved methods and facilities for the final disposal of hazardous substances in the region.

8.3.3 Reasons for Objectives and Policies

Hazardous wastes can produce severe impacts upon the environment and especially on the health and safety of people, animals and ecosystems. The objective has been selected because no other result would be acceptable or be consistent with sustainable management.

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The policies recognise that hazardous wastes will often require more specialised management than other wastes. Simply handling them along with other wastes could make these other wastes hazardous as well, compounding the effects. It would also make it less feasible to provide the special treatment needed to avoid or mitigate the hazardous effects. The policies seek to place responsibility for the management of hazardous wastes on the producers. This is seen as fair and will enable the true costs to be more accurately identified and therefore reduced.

Alternatives considered

No alternatives are considered possible consistent with sustainable management.

8.4 SITES WHICH HAVE BEEN CONTAMINATED WITH HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES MAY CONTAMINATE SOILS, POLLUTE NATURAL WATERS AND HAVE IMPACTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Explanation

There are a number of actual and potential contaminated sites identified in the Gisborne District. The extent of and implications from the contamination are often not known. These sites could include closed and existing refuse disposal sites, bulk fuel storage sites, timber treatment sites and chemical handling sites, gasworks.

8.4.1 Objectives

1. The risk to human and environmental health from contaminated sites lowered to an acceptable level.

2. Minimal risk of any further sites within the Gisborne District becoming contaminated.

8.4.2 Policies

1. To encourage any owners aware of their site being contaminated to register the sites with the Council.
2. To apply the ANZECC guidelines, or such other guidelines as Council may consider to be applicable to a particular situation, to determine the most appropriate course of action for a particular contaminated site. (Australia and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council, January 1992)
3. To encourage owners of contaminated sites to take responsibility for remediation.
4. To carry out a programme of investigation to identify all contaminated sites in the district.
5. To develop and implement appropriate means to promote investigations, remediation trials and other remediation activities, including, where appropriate, listing these activities as permitted activities in an appropriate plan.

8.4.3 Reasons for Objectives and Policies

There are a few contaminated sites in the Gisborne District, arising mainly out of industrial practices, and waste disposal. These can lead to discharges of contaminants to land, air and water, affecting the health and safety of humans, plants, animals and ecosystems.

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

The objectives and policies seek to identify and record all contaminated sites so that such effects can be either avoided, prevented or mitigated as appropriate. They seek to avoid the creation of further contaminated sites and to lower the risks from existing ones. Policy 5 seeks to enable remediation and is needed in order to ensure unnecessary barriers to remedial activities are removed.

Alternatives considered

Do Nothing

This would result in contaminated sites continuing to have adverse effects on the natural environment and on the health and safety of people, particularly where the sites are unknown, or the contamination hidden. There would be no benefits from this.

Public Responsibility

This would mean the Council or another agency taking the responsibility for identifying and cleaning up contaminated sites. This would be unfair to those not responsible and provide no incentive to avoid further contamination of sites.

8.5 POINT AND NON POINT DISCHARGES OF LIQUID WASTES CAN ADVERSELY AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Explanation

Reticulated sewerage systems are only available to Gisborne City, Te Karaka and some Te Puia Springs properties. These eventually discharge effluent into Poverty Bay, Waipaoa River and Ratahi

Lagoon respectively. All other properties dispose of sewage on site. Septage, the semi-solid waste that is contained in a septic tank, is generally collected by commercial operators and disposed of either into a reticulate sewerage system or onto land. The latter practice can cause problems of land and water contamination, odour, breeding of rodents and insects, and the transmission of faecal material. The advantage being it usually incurs less in transportation costs to the owner.

Point source discharge to Poverty Bay from Gisborne city sewage is currently being investigated with a view to either removing the existing outfall altogether and treating all sewage wastes on land or significantly improving the quality of the final discharge. At the time of writing the engineering and works department of the Gisborne District Council were projecting the following indicative timelines:

1. Completion of Investigation of options for sewage disposal: Complete by Feb. 23, 1995.
 2. Confirm procedures and study format for further investigating feasibility options: Complete by May 4, 1995.
 3. Design and construction of the chosen option by Dec. 20, 1996.
- It is likely that considerable public input and contributions will be sought between May 4, 1995 and the implementation of a chosen treatment option. The details of that process are yet to be determined.

Industry can be an important source of both point and non point contamination.

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While operating, the Weddell meatworks contributed a significant amount of effluent to Poverty Bay through its pipeline. Another less obvious source of pollutants is the log storage area of the Port; from which tannins can leak and contaminate the Bay.

Septic tanks can cause localised problems if they malfunction which is usually due to inappropriate system design for the site characteristics, the tank not being adequately maintained or the need to relocate the effluent drain.

Agricultural waste from dairy, pig or poultry farming can cause land and water contamination and odour problems. Similarly maize waste or silage stored as stock feed can have adverse environmental effects.

Many areas throughout the district are enjoyed by “freedom campers”. It is important the waste from such activities and campervans are disposed of appropriately. Also the disposal of waste from moored boats would be managed to minimise aesthetic or contamination problems. Vehicles transporting stock are now usually fitted with effluent holding tanks and there is a need for facilities for emptying these tanks.

Stormwater can often become polluted as it passes across land, for example with soil or oil-based products.

8.5.1 Objectives

1. Minimal threat to human health or the environment from the collection and disposal of liquid waste.

2. Reduction in contaminants entering surface water from diffuse sources of pollution.

8.5.2 Policies

1. To promote, wherever appropriate and technically and economically feasible, land based treatment of effluent.
2. To promote the adoption of cleaner production technologies in trade waste and agricultural premises.
3. To promote the provision of on board sewage holding facilities on vessels, and the disposal of sewage and refuse from ships at appropriate facilities.
4. To encourage the voluntary adoption of treatment and disposal options which have least impact on the environment, and to regulate for this where necessary.
5. To develop appropriate standards and practices for the treatment and disposal of farm animal effluent.
6. To identify areas where urban stormwater is having unacceptable effects on natural water, and to develop the management systems necessary to overcome these problems.

8.5.3 Reasons for Objectives and Policies

The objectives and policies recognise that liquid waste occurs in a number of situations.

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Point sources include outfalls and overflows of sewage, industrial effluents, contaminated stormwater, and domestic non-sewered effluent disposal systems. Non-point sources include a wide range of discharges, major ones being stormwater runoffs contaminated by agricultural practices or urban development.

The objectives seek to minimise the effects of such runoffs. The policies seek to minimise production of such wastes and provide for appropriate treatment and collection of them prior to eventual discharge.

Alternatives considered

Do Nothing

This would result in liquid waste discharges continuing to have adverse effects on the natural environment and on the health and safety of people. There would be no benefits from this. It would be particularly offensive to Maori people.

Others

No alternative objectives and policies are considered possible that are substantially different from those listed and which would meet the requirements of the Act.

Costs and Benefits

The benefits of the selected approach are expected to be greater and the costs less than the do nothing approach.

8.6 A LARGE PORTION OF THE REGION DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A RETICULATED SEWAGE SYSTEM. THE EFFECTS, ESPECIALLY LOCALISED AND CUMULATIVE, OF INDIVIDUALS DISPOSING OF THEIR OWN DOMESTIC WASTES CAN BE ADVERSE.

Explanation

Disposal of liquid effluent and periodic disposal of cleanings from septic tanks has the potential to contaminate land and waterways, creating risks to health, ecosystems and to amenity values. A large proportion of the Region relies on septic tank effluent disposal systems

8.6.1 Objectives

1. Reduction of the impacts on surface and groundwater from non-sewered domestic waste disposal.

8.6.2 Policies

1. To ensure systems used for disposal of effluent are suitable for the local conditions.

8.6.3 Reasons for Objectives and Policies

The Council is obliged under the Resource Management Act to control the use of land to avoid adverse impacts on water quality. (Objective 1).

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Unreticulated effluent disposal systems will remain common in the Region in the foreseeable future, because of the size and low population density of most of it. The installation and maintenance is most effectively carried out by owners, but the Council has an important role in educating, advising and if necessary determining the suitability of particular designs and practices for the local conditions.

Alternatives considered

Do Nothing

This would result in liquid waste discharges continuing to have adverse effects on the natural environment and on the health and safety of people. There would be no benefits from this. It would be particularly offensive to Maori people.

Others

No alternative objectives and policies are considered possible that are substantially different from those listed and which would meet the requirements of the Act.

Costs and Benefits

The benefits of the selected approach are expected to be greater and the costs less than the do nothing approach.

8.7 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES ARE FREQUENTLY AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF INDUSTRY. THEIR TRANSPORT, USE, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL CAN, HOWEVER, EXPOSE THE ENVIRONMENT TO SIGNIFICANT RISK

Explanation

Hazardous substances are any substances which may pose threats to the environment, to human, plant or animal health. They are often equated with hazardous waste but the risks can arise at any time during the existence of such a substance, from production, storage, transport, use and disposal.

They include materials that can be explosive, flammable, oxidising, toxic, radioactive, corrosive and infectious.

Many common substances can be hazardous at some stage during their existence and benign at others. The degree of risk depends on the quantity, concentration and form of the substance and how it is managed.

Hazardous substances can have considerable economic benefits, which is generally why they are found close to people and the environment. Their use can add considerably to the health, prosperity, and quality of life of people. Common examples include paints, fuels, oils, cleaners, chemicals used in industry, agriculture, horticulture and forestry.

Adverse effects can arise from discharges, spills, and excessive contact at any time. Inappropriate final disposal can be a particular problem because the last owner of the substance may no longer acknowledge responsibility for the substance. Effects may persist for a long time after disposal and may pass into air, land or water by leaching or decay.

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8.7.1 Objectives

1. Protection of human health and the environment from the actual and potential adverse effects arising from storage, use and transport of hazardous substances.
2. Reduction in the number and consequential environmental effects associated with hazardous substances spills.

8.7.2 Policies

1. To encourage the adoption of cleaner production so as to minimise the quantity and risk of hazardous substances in the District.
2. To develop a management system for identifying hazardous substances users, and ensuring that their storage, use and transportation practices are carried out in a manner which minimises the potential risk to the environment.
3. To control the discharge of hazardous substances to land, air and water so as to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse environmental effects arising from inappropriate use and handling practices.
4. To adopt an inter-agency co-ordinated approach to the management and clean up of hazardous spills.

8.7.3 Reasons for Objectives and Policies

The storage, use, misuse and transportation of hazardous substances has the potential to create environmental effects due

mainly to spills and accidents and misuse. These environmental effects while being of low probability, are often of large magnitude.

It is therefore not effective to manage these effects by setting performance standards at a site by site level, then monitor for compliance, as the events rarely occur. Once the effects have been detected it is too late to instigate preventative action.

These provisions are therefore intended to minimise the quantities of hazardous substances in circulation, to identify and track hazardous substances during their production, storage use and transport stages and to ensure ultimate disposal is carried out in a way which will avoid adverse effects. It is therefore a cradle to grave approach. It should be recognised that the Gisborne Regional Policy Statement deals with issues described as the role of Council through sections 30(1)(c),(v) & (f) of the RMA). Principally, these sections prescribe as a function of Council the control of discharges and the use of land to do with hazardous substances. The Gisborne District Council will rely wherever possible on applicable legislation, national guidelines and industry Codes of Practice to avoid unnecessary action on its part, duplication or creating confusion.

Alternatives considered

Do Nothing

This would result in hazardous substances continuing to have the potential for adverse effects on the natural environment and on the health and safety of people. There would be no benefits from this.

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Others

No alternative objectives and policies are considered possible that are substantially different from those listed and which would meet the requirements of the Act.

Costs and Benefits

The benefits of the selected approach are expected to be greater and the costs less than the do nothing approach.

8.8 METHODS FOR ISSUES 8.1- 8.7

1. The Gisborne District Council, will by 30/09/95, develop and publicly notify a regional plan dealing with waste management and hazardous substances.
2. Council will develop performance standards as a part of the regional plan dealing with waste management and will have consideration for Ministry for the Environment Landfill Guidelines.
3. Solid waste stream data will be collected in manner consistent with the Ministry for the Environment Waste Analysis Protocol.
4. Council will, as a part of a regional plan dealing with waste management, establish criteria which describe how the adequacy of waste treatment or disposal activities will be assessed.
5. Council will utilise a combination of education and regulation to minimise the occurrence of unauthorised discharges.
6. Council will use a combination of education and regulation to minimise the occurrence of hazardous spills.

7. Council will use regulation, education and information, to avoid or reduce the adverse effects of non-sewered domestic waste disposal systems on water quality.
8. Council will encourage and promote better management of land use practices to avoid diffuse source pollution of waterways, by a combination of education and non-statutory guidelines, service delivery and regulation.
9. Council will, by June 1996, develop a database of number, location and nature of point source discharges of contaminants to the Districts waterbodies and to have established targets for reductions in volume concentration and number of such discharges.
10. Council will take into account, and rely on wherever possible, national legislation, national guidelines, industry codes of practice and other relevant documents.
11. Council will adopt the "polluter pays principle" in the event of a hazardous spill, where appropriate and possible.
12. Council will require the owners of all major facilities for storing potentially hazardous substances [contaminants] to prepare and adopt a contingency response plan to recognised standards, approved by the Council, for dealing with unauthorised discharges and spills.

8.9 REASONS FOR METHODS

The topic of hazardous substances is strongly related to, although not the same as general waste management.

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Strategies of minimisation, safe handling, storage, transport and disposal apply to both. The two topics are too large and complex to deal with comprehensively in a regional policy statement, and in some cases rules may be required, which would have to be included in a plan.

The methods recognise the contribution that both the regulatory and educational rolls of Council must play if the effects of hazardous substances and waste are to be avoided, remedied or mitigated.

8.10 INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT

These issues relate to other issues discussed in Part 2 of this Regional Policy Statement, in particular:

- 2.4 Culture and Heritage
- 3.0 Water Quality
- 4.0 Air Quality Management
- 6.0 Coastal Management

8.11 ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

The anticipated results of these provisions are:

1. Greater community awareness of the problems associated with an excessive waste stream and the need to minimise the amount of waste generated.
2. An informed public on the opportunities for individual and community responses to minimise waste.

3. Reduction in the generation of waste and more efficient use of resources.
4. Adverse effects from waste management practices are reduced or avoided.
5. Excellent co-operation between producers, users and operators, and agencies responsible for management of waste.
6. Reduced risk to the environment and to human health from storage, use and transportation of hazardous substances.
7. Good knowledge of the quantities and types of hazardous substances in use, circulation and storage.
8. Reduced environmental effects associated with discharges or spills of hazardous substances to land, air or water.
9. Well educated users, producers and other people and agencies working with hazardous substances who are aware of the risks, responsibilities, costs and benefits associated with hazardous substances.
10. Excellent co-operation between producers, users and operators, and agencies responsible for management of hazardous substances.

WASTE MANAGEMENT and HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES**8.12 MONITORING AND REVIEW****Monitoring**

The issues, objectives and policies set out in this chapter are developed and implemented through a Regional Plan dealing with hazardous substances and waste management. That Regional Plan contains an extensive proposal for a monitoring programme. No monitoring specific to these regional policy statement provisions is therefore proposed.

Review

The provisions of this chapter will be reviewed each time the Regional Policy Statement is reviewed. They will also be reviewed and if necessary changed whenever new national legislation, guidelines or policy are prepared, when the Council has reason to believe that the provisions are no longer necessary or the most appropriate means of dealing with the topic.