

This Executive Summary and Table of Contents is taken from a Cultural Impact Assessment Report prepared by Dyanna Jolly Consulting, on behalf of Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura (Ngāi Tahu), for activities associated with an ocean outfall off the coast of Kaikōura (September 2004). Permission was obtained from the clients and Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura to use the report on the Quality Planning Website. However, at the request of the client, company names were removed.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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This Tangata Whenua Impact Assessment Report was requested by [REDACTED] in information on tangata whenua values associated with the Kaikōura coastal marine area, and the impact on those values of the Kaikōura Dairy Factory discharge and ocean outfall. The report is part of preparations to apply to renew an existing coastal discharge permit.

A further objective of this report is to suggest, where appropriate, potential measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse impacts on tangata whenua values. Such measures will assist [REDACTED] in understanding and thus responding to Rūnanga concerns associated with the discharge activity.

The ocean outfall is located in the on the Kaikōura coast, approximately 350 metres east of the intersection of Mill and Beach Roads. The activity occurs in the takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura, the representative body of the hapu Ngāti Kuri.

Ngāti Kuri has a long and significant relationship with coastal areas. *Te Tai o Marokura*, the Kaikōura Coastal Marine Area, is a Statutory Acknowledgement area under the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998. Coastal Statutory Acknowledgement areas are recorded statements of Ngāi Tahu special association with an area, and were included in the Settlement as a tool to enable Ngāi Tahu an active role in the management of coastal areas.

During the preparation of this report, tangata whenua identified specific aspects of the activity that had impacts on tangata whenua values. From the beginning, early consultation with the Rūnanga was viewed as a positive impact, through providing a means to recognise and provide for tangata whenua values with regards to the future of the discharge activity. Further impacts associated with the activity were related to:

1. Effects on the customary relationship of Ngāti Kuri with the coast and sea
2. Effects of discharge of wastewater to the sea
3. Effects of effluent quality on the marine environment
4. Effects on wāhi taonga: Waikawau
5. Management of the solids (fats and grease)
6. Impacts associated with the coastal structure
7. Assessment of alternatives
8. Monitoring and compliance issues
9. Future considerations

In assessing the values associated with the Kaikōura coast, and the impacts on those values as a result of the ocean outfall, it is likely that Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura will have significant concerns with this consent application. The main issue is that effluent is being discharged to the sea in an area of high cultural importance, and tribal and Rūnanga policy is to avoid discharges to water. Dilution to pollution is considered culturally and environmentally inappropriate.

What this Impact Assessment highlights is that adverse effects on tangata whenua values would be significantly remedied if the effluent was further treated, and discharge to land options were investigated in a balanced, inclusive assessment of alternatives. Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura has a clear preference for discharge to land: to the Kaikōura town oxidation ponds, or alternatively, using treated effluent as irrigation on dairy paddocks.

So where to from here?

Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura has identified a possible way forward with regards to addressing adverse impacts on tangata whenua values. This involves the following points:

- Treatment of the effluent on site is a priority.
- Formation of a joint working group to investigate to consider discharge to the town oxidation ponds, or land based discharge (irrigation on dairy paddocks). This working party would have Rūnanga representation, and would be funded by [REDACTED]
- The working party would assess discharge options from a cultural, environmental and economic perspective. If the working group has not come to a conclusion by the time the consent expires, the Rūnanga recommends a one-year consent to continue the investigation of alternatives.
- In the short term, the pipeline and outfall structure must be repaired immediately. It must also be extended, so that the discharge is consistently in the water at low tide.

As kaitiaki, Ngāti Kuri believe that the coastal environment must be sustained for future generations. The well being of the people is dependent on the health and well being of the coast and sea. This Tangata Whenua Impact Assessment Report is intended to provide a starting point for future communication and cooperation between [REDACTED] Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura in the next stage of the consultation process. As per the Terms of Reference, a meeting between [REDACTED] Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura and Te Rūnanga o Tahu will occur by November 2004, to discuss this report and its possible implications for forthcoming resource consent application.

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