

**Assessment against the provisions of the National Policy Statement for  
Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM 2020)**

The applicant, Mark James Nelson, is proposing to discharge up to 1000 litres/day of domestic wastewater to land via dripline, following secondary treatment of the wastewater, at 1604 Cut Road, Cust. An assessment of the proposal against the NPS-FM 2020 has been completed below, consistent with the scale of the proposed discharge.

**1. Assessment against the Objectives of the NPS-FM 2020**

The fundamental concept of the NPS-FM 2020 is that freshwater must be managed in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai. The definition of Te Mana o te Wai includes the management of freshwater in accordance with the principles of Mana whakahaere, Kaitiakitanga, Manaakitanga, Governance, Stewardship and Care and respect. Te Mana o te Wai has a hierarchy of obligations towards protecting the health of freshwater that prioritises:

- a. first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems;
- b. second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water); and
- c. third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.

The application for resource consent by the applicant proposes a high level of wastewater treatment via a secondary treatment tank designed in accordance with AS/NZS1547:2012. The Hynds Lifestyle 'Ultimate' tank has been given an 'A' rating based on the OSET testing results, which will help to minimise any adverse effects on the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems. This is combined with a separation of ~7m from high groundwater levels, which will help to further protect the receiving environment. While a setback of 20 m is not proposed between the proposed discharge and an existing drain along Cust Road (see updated Site Plan), the slope of the applicant's property and discharge area away from the will ensure the potential for treated wastewater to flow into the drain is minimal.

Domestic drinking water is supplied by a public scheme, therefore the closest domestic bore in the direction of groundwater flow is approximately 1700 m from the proposed discharge. There are also no community drinking water supplies in proximity.

In the absence of a reticulated wastewater treatment plant for the Cust township, the proposed on-site wastewater system will allow the applicant to safely and effectively manage the wastewater produced on-site. The proposed discharge will be located wholly within the applicant's residential lot boundaries, and the proposed discharge of wastewater is a result of residential occupation of the site. The applicant will ensure regular maintenance of the system and vegetation cover across the drip field. These factors and measures will safeguard the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.

## 2. Assessment against relevant provisions in Part 3 of the NPS-FM 2020

Part 3 of the NPS-FM 2020 covers the implementation of the NPS-FM 2020. Subpart 1 sets out how local authorities must implement this National Policy Statement, particularly in relation to giving effect to Te Mana o te Wai. Subpart 2 sets out the National Objectives Framework for managing freshwater. Subpart 3 set out additional requirements on regional councils relating to freshwater management.

Subparts 1 and 2 are not considered to be expressly related to the proposal. An assessment of the relevant sections of Subpart 3 is given in Table 1.

*Table 1: Assessment of the relevant sections of Subpart 3 of the NPS-FM 2020*

Subpart 3	Discussion
Clause 21 - Definitions relating to wetlands and rivers	There are no rivers or wetlands in proximity to the proposed discharge. The Cust River flows 180 m North of the property and forms the closest natural water way to the proposed discharge. The proposed separation is sufficient to ensure adverse effects on the Cust River are minor.
Clause 22 - Natural inland wetlands	There are no inland wetlands in the vicinity of the proposed discharge
Clause 23 - Mapping and monitoring natural inland wetlands	There are no inland wetlands in the vicinity of the proposed discharge
Clause 24 - Rivers	The Cust River flows 180 m North of the property and forms the closest natural water way to the proposed discharge. The proposed separation is sufficient to ensure adverse effects on the Cust River are minor.
Clause 25 - Deposited sediment in rivers	Not considered relevant
Clause 26 - Fish passage	Not considered relevant
Clause 27 - Primary contact sites	The Cust River flows 180 m North of the property and forms the closest natural water way to the proposed discharge. The proposed separation is sufficient to ensure adverse effects on the Cust River are minor. Piezometric contours show groundwater to flow in a NW-SE direction, away from the Cust River.
Clause 28 - Water allocation	Not considered relevant
Clause 29 - Freshwater accounting systems	Not considered relevant
Clause 30 - Assessing and reporting	Not considered relevant
Clause 31 - Large hydro-electric generation schemes	Not considered relevant
Clause 32 - Naturally occurring processes	Not considered relevant
Clause 33 - Specified vegetable growing areas	Not considered relevant