

## Oceania Wastewater Disposal Pipe

In the words of former Upoko for Waitaha, Rangimarie Te Maiharoa.

“You don't contaminate the food store – where you take food from – its a simple fact if you catch fish in a pond you don't stand there and gut it. Thats what you call contamination – you weren't allowed to eat it there either – Taare Te Maiharoa my Poua said only white persons, fishing round our waters, gutted them in our waters.

Waitaha are pretty tidy – so no contamination – not the way we know now – a creek would dry up if you threw the potato water in it – in particular the Waitaki Awa and its surrounding creeks, coastline and lagoons is sacred.

Water to the Nations of Waitaha means eternal life.

Wai Taha means the storage vessel of the essence of life.”

1. Waihao , Arowhenua Runangas, Ngai Tahu and Waitaha are united in their objection to the further pollution of the coastal waters in this district. As both Runanga point out there are already several other outfalls polluting the shore waters.
2. Maori have always had an holistic approach to nature and if you look at the species in the sea ,the canary in the mine is our hoiho or yellow eyed penguin. Numbers have plummeted in recent years with disease being rife. Diptheria, fungal throat that causes them to starve and malaria. It is only from intensive medical intervention that the penguins at Moeraki are managing to hold their numbers and have not followed other colonies on the path to extinction.. The cause is unknown but it is thought turbidity in the water from agricultural run off and disposal pipelines like the one proposed by Oceania make it difficult for YEP to see and catch fish.
3. We have to do better than this! Maori are demanding companies explore alternatives. Recycling and land disposal of waste is preferable. It may cost more but it is a cost that is being born by our most precious taoka at the moment, not the polluters!
4. This pipeline is proposed not just for today's wastewater but as Oceania states for further expansion. Have we not learnt yet that resources are limited and pristine clean water a scarcity? Is this the way to achieve climate change? by further production?
5. Waihao have asked for conditions if the consent is granted. How easy it is to appear to please everyone by conditions. How much more courageous to draw a line in the sand and say enough is enough.
6. Maori in the Waitaki have lost their most stable food source. In one lifetime tuna have plummeted from catches of hundreds to only a few and in the words of Waihao Runanga they are now a “delicacy.” This is a clear example of an inability of pakeha to understand the value of tuna to maori. Swamps have been drained in the Waitaki Valley and irrigation ponds put in that are too deep and cold for tuna to survive in over the winter. This without permission even sought by farmers eg Tauhinu Spring. It is only through the Resource Management Act that a forum has been provided where all our cultural values can be communicated to one another.
7. Water to be culturally healthy for maori needs to be safely swimmable in by both fish, seals, penguins, and people.

8. Wainono Lagoon which Rangimarie could boat on and see clear to the bottom in his youth is now a nitrogen tainted water body with foam at its' edges despite well intentioned riparian plantings. Remedies have to be effective not possibly helpful in the future after a decades waiting.

9. Industrialisation of the whenua of which Oceania plays a part has affected customary practices and values. Intensive dairy farming which is what is necessary for Oceania has polluted rivers and freshwater bodies and now it is intending to pollute the sea as well. Plants such as Oceania produce such volumes that waste that once could have been used as manure and animal feed is now toxic. Do we want factories producing toxic waste to dump in our environment or should we limit volume now to a level that can be satisfactorily assimilated on the land?

10. Just because a sea pipeline is out of sight doesn't mean it is not wrecking havoc on all our species underneath the surface.

11. There is a worry that in an emergency unpermitted waste will be disposed of via the pipeline. Better to not have it and plan on other alternative emergency disposal plans.

12. It is highly unlikely Oceania, if consent given, will spend the ten year consent period looking for a better disposal method. If there is a problem now with too much waste they need to reduce production until they can safely dispose of that excess waste.

13. Although treated, there is no doubt contaminants such as cleaning compounds, sanitizer, caustic soda and lactose which causes sewage fungus growth are just as harmful as some removed solids in the wastewater. Add to this the visual pollution of boiler stacks and undesirable odours as well as corrosive dust particles CO<sub>2</sub>, sulphur, nitrogen oxides, and methane, (all greenhouse gases, impacting on climate change) and it seems it would be environmentally responsible to discourage further development of Oceania's capacity and not give consent to the pipeline.

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