

Report to the Collaborative Stakeholder Group

File No: 23 10 05CS
Date: 30 July 2015
To: Collaborative Stakeholder Group
From: CSG Chairperson – Bill Wasley
Subject: Waikato River Authority – Position on Resource Limits
Section: **Vision and Strategy**

1 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) of correspondence received from the Waikato River Authority (WRA). WRA has adopted a set of principles to assist in providing guidance on giving effect to the Vision and Strategy.

Recommendation:

1. That the report “Waikato River Authority – Position on Resource Limits” (Doc 3466074 dated 30 July 2015) be received for information.

21 July 2015

Bill Wasley
Chair of Community Stakeholders Group
100 Spring Street
Tauranga

Teena koe Bill

Re: Principles to guide giving effect to the vision and strategy

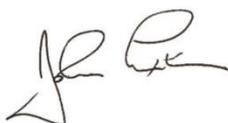
At its last hui the Authority adopted the principles below to assist in providing guidance on giving effect to the vision and strategy. The principles adopted are complementary to work also being completed by river iwi with Authority input.

Principles:

The principles adopted by the WRA Board are:

- Limits on resource allocation or use, such as for water allocation or contaminant loss, should be set at a level that at a minimum provides for the achievement of the objectives of the Vision and Strategy;
- These limits should be set with recognition of lag times, where historical or current contaminant losses are yet to be exhibited in the river either in part or in full;
- Once limits are set, any over-allocation or over-use shall cease in the shortest possible reasonable time;
- No new allocation or use shall be allowed to occur that would exceed agreed limits; and
- A precautionary approach shall be taken to limit setting where decisions may result in significant adverse effects on the river, in particular where those effects threaten irreversible damage to the river.

The WRA has taken no position on what limits should be put in place (other than the principle that limits should provide, at a minimum, for the objectives of the V&S to be achieved), nor on how allocations within limits should occur. We look forward to providing feedback on the upcoming scenario setting work of the CSG, as we anticipate this will significantly inform consideration of the 'pace' or timeframe of what is achievable within the life of the Healthy Rivers Plan.



Hon. John Luxton
Co-Chair



Tukoroirangi Morgan
Co-Chair