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greater WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Pane Matua Taiao

1 CEX	UPPER HUTT CITY COUNCIL			8 <i>REP</i>
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File No: X/26/04/125
1 November 2012

Richard Harbord
Upper Hutt City Council
838-842 Fergusson Drive
Private Bag 907
Upper Hutt 5140

Dear Richard

Please find enclosed Greater Wellington Regional Council's submission in support of the Proposed Plan Change 15: Flood and Erosion Hazard areas.

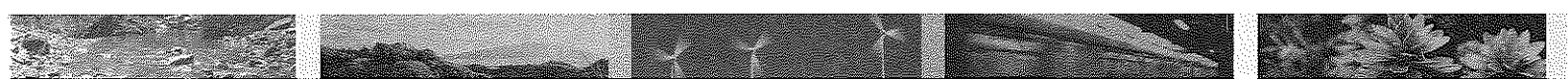
Please ring us to discuss any aspects of the submission you need to and Greater Wellington can appear in support of the plan change at the hearing. Sharyn Westlake will continue to provide advice as required.

Regards

Lucy Harper
Team Leader, Environmental Policy

Direct dial: (06) 826 1529
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WGN_DOCS-#1139008-V1



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Greater Wellington Regional Council: Submission

To: Upper Hutt City Council

Submission on: Proposed Plan change 15 –Flood and Erosion hazard Areas

1. Reason for submission

Pursuant to section 92 of the Resource Management Act 1991, Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) is pleased to make a submission on the proposed Plan Change 15 which addresses provisions for flood and erosion hazard areas in the Upper Hutt City Council District Plan 2004.

In addition to its responsibilities under the Resource Management Act (RMA), Local Government Act (LGA) and Land Transport Management Act (LTMA), Greater Wellington has a number of functions and obligations under the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941, Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972 and Wellington Regional Council (Water Board Functions) Act 2005.

Greater Wellington has both regulatory and operational functions, and is also a requiring authority under the RMA. This submission reflects these functional areas.

Plan change 15 has been assessed for its consistency with regional policy documents, and is regarded as being consistent with regional policy direction. It is also consistent with our operational requirements for flood protection activities.

Greater Wellington wishes to submit in support of the provisions in the plan change and in particular:

- The identification of areas of flood and erosion hazard
- Provisions to manage flood risk and to avoid development in areas of high hazard risk.

2. Weighting and assessment of the operative and proposed Regional Policy Statements for the Wellington Region

A decision on Greater Wellington's proposed Regional Policy Statement (PRPS) was approved by Council on 18 May 2010 and was publicly notified on 22 May 2010. The appeal period closed on 6 July 2010. Eight appeals were received and all appeal points have been resolved by mediation. Draft consent orders for appeals relating to the natural hazards provisions are filed with the Environment Court for assessment and decision.

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3. Policy framework

In assessing the proposed plan change for consistency with the operative and proposed RPS, Greater Wellington is particularly interested in how the proposed plan change will support and contribute to achieving the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in the Wellington region.

3.1 Proposed Regional Policy Statement 2010

The PRPS offers guidance on Greater Wellington's future direction for the management of natural and physical resources in the Wellington region. The PRPS sets out new objectives and policies to address regionally significant issues and is therefore the most relevant document to assess the plan change against.

The first group of policies in the PRPS are directive to local authorities and require provisions to be included in district or regional plans. The second set of policies are regulatory and need to be given particular regard to when assessing and determining a resource consent, notices of requirements, or when changing, varying or replacing city, district or regional plans. Many of the regulatory policies will cease to have effect once the directive policies are given effect through district or regional plans.

4. Assessment of the plan change

The policies from the PRPS which are relevant to the proposed plan change are as follows:

Policy 28 is directive to regional and district plans to identify areas at high risk from natural hazards and to avoid inappropriate subdivision and development in those high hazard areas. The policy explanation also gives some guidance for provisions when deciding if a particular development is appropriate.

Policy 51 is a consideration policy which gives further guidance around the requirement to minimise any adverse effects of hazard mitigation measures.

Plan change 15 has been assessed against these policies and is consistent with them.

5. Relief sought

Greater Wellington supports Plan change 15 and asks that it be retained

6. Involvement in hearing

Greater Wellington Regional Council wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

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Greater Wellington welcomes any opportunity to be involved in discussions and to clarify any matters raised in this submission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Streat'.

.....
Jonathan Streat
Manager, Environmental Policy
Greater Wellington Regional Council

Dated 1 November 2012

Address for service:

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