

Submission

Resource Management Amendment Bill

PREPARED BY: Ashburton District Council SUBMITTED TO: Environment Committee
PO Box 94 Parliament Buildings
ASHBURTON 7774 WELLINGTON 6140

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Introduction

1. Ashburton District Council ('Council') welcomes the opportunity to submit on the proposed National Environmental Standard for the outdoor storage of tyres (NES).
2. Located between the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers respectively, and an hour's drive south of Christchurch, more than 33,400¹ residents live in the district, with the main town of Ashburton accounting for over 55% of residents. The rest of our residents live rurally or in smaller towns or villages.
3. Ashburton district has experienced a moderate and sustained population increase since 1996, with a population growth of over 33%². The expansion of irrigation and agricultural diversification on the Canterbury Plains have been major factors in this growth.
4. Ashburton District Council is a territorial authority under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA) and its area of responsibility covers greater than 6000 square kilometre from the sea in the east to the Southern Alps in the West.

Solid Waste Management and enforcement in Ashburton District

5. The District Council Solid Waste Team has a staff of two while a further full time equivalent staff member is responsible for Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) functions within the Regulatory area.
6. Ashburton District Council has provisions in its District Plan which control storage and waste management, although not specifically relating to the storage of tyres.
7. Council staff are not aware of significant tyre storage areas in the District, however were a complaint regarding tyre storage to be received, this would be investigated by our CME function and we would engage with the Regional Council as to how to address the issue as a combined action.

General Comments

8. Council supports the intention of the NES to create a national framework for the storage and disposal of tyres and agrees that the present situation can result in inconsistency and a lack of clarity as to responsibility.

¹ Source: Statistics New Zealand Census 2018

² Source: Statistics New Zealand Census 2018

9. Council agrees with the rationale for the NES and its alignment with the Resource Management Act 1991 and its intentions.

Comments on Revised NES proposal

10. Council agrees with the reasoning contained in the discussion document regarding Regional Council administration. Council notes particularly the benefit this would give in relation to existing use rights constraints currently faced by District Councils.
11. Council supports the proposed permitted activity rule for outdoor tyre storage of 40sqm and to the discretionary limit with additional requirements. This is considered to be a pragmatic solution which recognises day to day agricultural activities. Council also supports the exemption for tyres used as weights on silage stacks.

Council thanks the Select Committee for the opportunity to submit on the *proposed National Environmental Standards for the outdoor storage of tyres*.



JANE DONALDSON

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