

Anna Muspratt
Resource Advisor
Greater Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11 646
WELLINGTON

By email: Anna.Muspratt@gw.govt.nz

WGN970255 [34837] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Discharge to storage basin

Discharge wastewater to land (being an unlined storage area) within the Paraparaumu WWTP site, with minor leakage to ground, for flows that exceed the plant capacity.

WGN970255 [34833] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Discharge to air

Discharge to air from all facilities at the Paraparaumu WWTP (within the Paraparaumu WWTP site).

WGN970255 [2565] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Discharge to Mazengarb Drain

Discharge of tertiary treated wastewater from the Paraparaumu WWTP to the Mazengarb Drain at a rate of up to 18,600 m³/day, seven days / week, 52 weeks / year (within the Paraparaumu WWTP site).

WGN030149 [22566] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Overflow basin

To discharge screened, dilute wastewater as overflow from the overflow basin at the Paraparaumu WWTP to the Mazengarb Drain.

WGN130218 [32196] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Sludge drying

To discharge to air from the operation and maintenance of a boiler and biofilter associated with the sludge handling process.

WGN040098 [34794] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Sludge lagoons

To discharge contaminants to land from a contaminated site, those discharges being emanations arising from residual sludge in the decommissioned Paraparaumu Wastewater Treatment Plant sludge lagoons.

Quarterly Report to end of March 2025 (Q3, FY2025) for Paraparaumu Wastewater Treatment Plant (PWWTP)

Dear Anna,

This report covers the compliance information required under the conditions of the above resource consents related to the PWWTP for the three months ended March 2025. This report includes the following information:

- An assessment of compliance against the resource consent conditions for Q3 (Appendix A).
- Quarterly monitoring results required by resource consents WGN970255 [34837], [27633] and [2656] (Appendix B).
- Annual monitoring results required by resource consent WGN130218 [32196], noting these results are submitted on a quarterly basis (Appendix B).

Overall compliance with resource consents in Q3 FY2025

The Council is fully compliant with all PWWTP resource consents as demonstrated in Tables 1 to 4 in Appendix A. The remainder of this letter provides some commentary on the compliance report and the data provided in Appendix B.

Amoeba outbreak

During January 2025, the WWTP experienced a bout of Testate Amoeba, likely due to rapid temperature increase, no rain and an increased BOD load during the Christmas period. The Amoeba are large and block the filter, which resulted in false TSS readings. During this time, TSS recordings were elevated (maximum of 19g/m³), but did not exceed the geometric mean in January (Limit 1 – 15g/m³). At the time, there was also a spate of tin jelly fish at the beaches, all of which are related. TSS returned to normal after a few days with the Council not needing to take any actions.

Boiler gasket repair

In mid-January, we had to shut down the boiler and dryer to repair a broken gasket. This work resulted in the temperature in the boiler chamber decreasing to below 650 degrees Celsius. Maintenance works in early January also resulted in the boiler chamber temperature decreasing. However, GWRC has previously agreed that consent WGN130218 [32196] must allow maintenance works so this is not considered a non-compliance with the air discharge permit. We did not receive any odour complaints or record any increases in odour during this time.

Community Liaison Group meeting

The Council held its quarterly CLG meeting on 28 February 2025 at the WWTP. Appendix C includes the final meeting minutes and power point presentation. The next CLG meeting is scheduled for 7 May 2025.

Work undertaken in Q3 FY2025 and ongoing projects

The Council is undertaking ongoing work at the PWWTP, including the following:

- **RAS-1 upgrade:** 90% of the upgrade of RAS-1 is complete, the installation of knife-gate valve is the remaining work which is now scheduled to be installed by mid-April.
- **New pH dosing plant:** commissioned.
- **A-Recycling system upgrade:** Pumps upgrade work complete, installed a new flow except for linking the data capture through SCADA.
- **Hydraulic debottlenecking of clarifier-3 and UV upgrade:** Concept design progressing. Requested GWRC for the confirmation of the UV specification.
- **Inlet-works:** Concept design complete. Procurement for the preliminary work underway.
- **Southern Section of the Waikanae Duplicate Wastewater Rising Main (WDWRM):** The Outline Plan of Works approved by KCDC and works are permitted under GWRC's Natural Resources Plan. Procurement is underway with a plan to complete the work by or before June 2025.
- **New scrapper arm for Clarifier-3:** Procured and work being planned.

- **Sludge-bed decommissioning:** GWRC approved the stockpile at landfill (from Expressway work) to be used for filling the sludge-beds at PWWTP site. Procurement of services complete, and work scheduled to commence by end of second week of April 2025.

Proposed National Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards

Taumata Arowai is consulting on the proposed National Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards (pNWEPS), which will set national standards for discharges from public WWTP's. Taumata Arowai is proposing to exclude wastewater discharges to very low dilution environments from the standards, which means future consenting for the Paraparaumu WWTP would continue to be subject to regional RMA processes.

In our submission, we disagree with the proposal to use dilution as the sole measure for WWTP performance and the exclusion of very low dilution environments from the standards. Paraparaumu WWTP is one of the highest performing plants in NZ of its size discharging into a freshwater environment, and excluding discharges into very low dilution environments from the standards prevents us from benefitting from the standards and undermines the objectives sought by the standards. We have requested that Taumata Arowai introduces point-of-discharge standards to include high-performing plants and removes or modifies the exclusion applying to very low dilution environments.

We have agreed with GWRC to place the processing of the resource consent application on hold under s.37A(5) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to enable more time to engage with iwi and review the implications of the final standards, anticipated in August 2025.

Please contact me should you need further information.

Yours faithfully,



Tess Drewitt
Consultant Compliance Officer to
Kapiti Coast District Council

Date: 22 April 2025

























Ramesh Pillai
Manager Water and Wastewater Services
Kapiti Coast District Council

Date: 22 April 2025

Cc:
Grant Stuart - Wastewater Treatment Plants Manager
Community Liaison Group members

APPENDIX A - ASSESSMENT AGAINST RESOURCE CONSENT CONDITIONS

Table 1: WGN970255 [34837], [27633], [2656] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Discharges

Requirement	Condition	Compliance
All Consents		
General Conditions	1-6, 8, 15, 21	
Discharge of unauthorised contaminants	7	
Community Liaison Group	9	
Air discharge [27633]		
Noxious, dangerous, offensive, or objectionable discharges	11	
Incident notification	12	
Operational logs	13	
Complaints record	14	
Discharges from sludge vitrification process ¹	16	
Discharge to Mazengarb Drain [2656]		
Records of daily flow	12	
Monitoring of effluent quality	13, 19	
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	18(a)(i)	
Suspended Solids	18(a)(ii)	
Faecal Coliform Bacteria	18(b)(i)	
pH	18(b)(ii)	
Ammonia, Nitrate, Dissolved Reactive Phosphorous (DRP)	18(c)	
Heavy metals	18(d)	
Dissolved Oxygen	18(e)	
Effects on Ratanui Lakes	16	
Three-monthly reporting to GWRC	17	
Signage	20	
Discharge to unlined storage pond [34837]		
Limit to 3 times per year. ²	2	
Return effluent to PWWTP as soon as reasonably practicable	11	

¹ Note that the sludge vitrification process was decommissioned in 2010.

² This is a requirement in the consent details (page 1) as opposed to the conditions of consent.

Table 2: WGN030149 [22566] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Overflow Basin





Requirement	Condition	Compliance
General Conditions	1, 5	
Notify GWRC when consent exercised	2	
Contingency actions	3	
Overflow Contingency Plan	4	

Table 3: WGN130218 [32196] – Paraparaumu WWTP – Sludge Drying
















Requirement	Condition	Compliance
General Conditions	1-3, 19, 20	
Wood as fuel	4	
Boiler temperature (above 650C)	5	
Treatment processes	6-8, 10	
Discharge of dangerous, noxious, offensive or objectionable contaminants	9	
Particulates (not exceeding 50mg/m ³)	11	
Emission Testing ³	12	
Monitoring	13	
Annual Reporting (by 1 August)	13	
Maintenance	14-16	
Complaints register ⁴	17	
Incident register & GWRC notification (within 24 hrs / 7 working days)	18	

Table 4: WGN040098 [34794] – Discharge from sludge lagoons

Requirement	Condition	Compliance
General conditions	1, 2, 4	
Groundwater monitoring	3	
Groundwater quality report	5	
Update of Sludge Decommissioning Management Plan	6	Underway

³ Not currently required by GWRC.⁴ No complaints received during Q2.

APPENDIX B – PWWTP QUARTERLY MONITORING RESULTS

APPENDIX C – CLG MEETING MINUTES AND PRESENTATION – 28 February 2025