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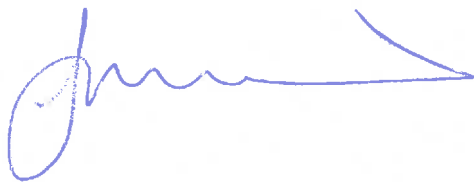
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Submission on the proposed changes to the Trade Waste Bylaw 2013

Thank you for the opportunity for Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS) to provide a submission on the proposed changes to the Trade Waste Bylaw 2013.

The following submission represents the views of ARPHS and does not necessarily reflect the views of the three District Health Boards it serves. Please refer to Appendix 1 for more information on ARPHS.

Yours sincerely



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Overview and recommendations

1. Thank you for the opportunity for Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS) to provide a submission on Auckland Council's proposed changes to the Trade Waste Bylaw 2013.
2. ARPHS has several roles, areas of activity and interests related to trade waste:
 - ARPHS is the auditor and regulator of networked drinking water and tankered drinking water suppliers in the Auckland region, so the possibility of trade wastes contaminating drinking water sources is of concern;
 - ARPHS maintains links with Watercare and Council's Healthy Waters and the Research and Evaluation Unit (RIMU) around natural water quality issues, including coastal recreational water quality (through SafeSwim);
 - ARPHS has an advisory role in response to incidents such as wastewater overflows, and has been involved in issues of groundwater and coastal sediment contamination from persistent pollutants;
 - ARPHS receives notifications from health practitioners and laboratories of cases of infectious diseases which can be caused by exposure to contaminated water;
 - ARPHS has been involved in supporting council wastewater services in incidents where trade waste contamination has affected the function of waste water treatment facilities, such as at Warkworth.
3. ARPHS fully supports Auckland Council's move towards making the Trade Waste Bylaw easier to understand by:
 - Introducing clearer rules around trade waste activities that are low-risk, and activities that require a trade waste agreement;
 - The introduction of the Trade Waste Control 2019 that will set out the existing limits to the characteristics and substances in trade waste discharges, as well as to flow rate and volume for low-risk discharges;
 - Including more information about the existing pre-treatment requirements for low-risk trade waste discharges;
 - Including information about what Council will look at while considering a trade waste agreement.
4. ARPHS' general comments and recommendations are as follows:
 - ARPHS is supportive of Auckland Council's approach to include a comprehensive list of what is prohibited to be discharged into the public wastewater system under the Bylaw. It might also be useful to reference (through hyperlinks and associated documents on-line) the information as to how to deal with waste that cannot be discharged as trade waste and to direct Bylaw users to the relevant Resource Management Act requirements or Hazardous Substances and New Organisms codes of practice for hazardous substances. This is to provide assistance to those dealing with non-permitted waste and to avoid the occurrence of illegal discharges.

- The guidance with the by-law and trade waste agreements ought to promote discharge of low risk waste into the wastewater system, and away from inappropriate discharge elsewhere.
 - Council could consider under section 6 of the revised Bylaw 'discharge of trade waste allowed in certain circumstances' to refer to the fact that there will be penalties for non-compliance with the Bylaw.
5. The remainder of this submission summarises feedback on specific provisions and clauses of the Bylaw including some suggested wording changes for Council's consideration.

Recommendations regarding specific bylaw provisions

Proposed clause in the draft revised Bylaw		ARPHS proposed alternative wording	Rationale
1.	Discharge means to introduce, cause, allow instruct the introduction or discharge of trade waste into the public wastewater system.	Discharge means to introduce, or cause, allow or instruct the introduction or discharge of trade waste into the public wastewater system directly or indirectly .	Clause reworded to cover both active and passive ways of discharging. The words 'direct' and 'indirect' added to cover off infiltration into a sewer or discharge via a pond.
2.	Groundwater means water found underground in the cracks and spaces in soil, sand and rock.	Groundwater means water below the land surface within rock, sand or soil, other than water within a man-made structure .	Aligned the definition with hydrological definitions of groundwater and added 'other than water within a man-made structure' for clarity.
3.	trade waste means any liquid, with or without matter in suspension or solution, that is, or may be discharged, from trade premises (excluding domestic sewage) to wastewater system in the course of any business, industrial or trade process or operation, or in the course of any activity or operation of a like nature.	trade waste means any liquid, with or without matter in suspension or solution, or transported by the liquid, or any solid matter , that is, or may be discharged, from trade premises (excluding domestic sewage) to wastewater system in the course of any business, industrial or trade process or operation, or in the course of any activity or operation of a like nature.	Suggest to add 'or transported by the liquid, or any solid matter' to the definition to cover off all the potential trade waste categories. As these include materials such as concrete and glass etc., that cannot be classified as 'suspension' or 'solution'.
4.	Part 2 Discharge of trade waste into public wastewater system	Part 2 Discharge of trade waste into public wastewater system	Added 'or sources' under the 'related information' heading for clarification.

<i>Proposed clause in the draft revised Bylaw</i>	<i>ARPHS proposed alternative wording</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
<p>6 Discharge of trade waste allowed in certain circumstances</p> <p>Related information</p> <p>Types of discharges requiring a trade waste agreement include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>6 Discharge of trade waste allowed in certain circumstances</p> <p>Related information</p> <p>Types or sources of discharges requiring a trade waste agreement include, but are not limited to:</p>	

Conclusion

- Thank you for considering our submission on Auckland Council's consultation on the proposed changes to the Trade Waste Bylaw 2013.

Appendix 1: Auckland Regional Public Health Service

Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS) provides public health services for the three district health boards (DHBs) in the Auckland region (Counties Manukau Health, Auckland and Waitemata District Health Boards).

ARPHS has a statutory obligation under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities in the Auckland region. The Medical Officer of Health has an enforcement and regulatory role under the Health Act 1956 and other legislative designations to protect the health of the community.

ARPHS' primary role is to improve population health. It actively seeks to influence any initiatives or proposals that may affect population health in the Auckland region to maximise their positive impact and minimise possible negative effects.

The Auckland region faces a number of public health challenges through changing demographics, increasingly diverse communities, increasing incidence of lifestyle-related health conditions such as obesity and type 2 diabetes, infrastructure requirements, the balancing of transport needs, and the reconciliation of urban design and urban intensification issues.

