

# **Mt Maunganui Industrial Air Quality Working Party**

## **DRAFT Terms of Reference**

### **1 Background**

Nationally regional councils have the legislated responsibility for local air quality. As we have gathered more information about the air quality around Mount Maunganui, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council has brought together functions across the organisation as well as other agencies to address the issues which cause air pollution in the area.

Due to a number of PM10 breaches of The National Environmental Standards for Air Quality (NESAQ), the Mount Maunganui Industrial Area was gazetted as the Mount Maunganui Air-shed (Appendix 1) in November 2019. The airshed was declared polluted from the time of gazetting. Under the current NESAQ standard the air shed will remain polluted until such a time as there are five years without further breaches of the current PM10 limit (fine dust particles which impact human health).

Air quality monitoring was expanded from two permanent monitoring stations, located on Totara Street and at Whareroa Marae, to a total of 12 locations in 2018. This expansion in monitoring was partly in response to public concern about industrial discharges and the effects of Port activities on the surrounding environment. The number of parameters monitored was also increased, notably the ability to detect the finer PM10 dust.

Breaches of the NESAQ identified at BoPRC's 12 air monitoring sites in the Mount Maunganui air-shed have greatly reduced in 2020 (compared to the previous two years), however the level of community and resident concern regarding health impacts from industrial emissions has significantly increased.

To address community concerns whilst considering the ability of business and industry to continue operating in the air-shed, a working party comprised of representatives from government agencies, iwi/hapū, community groups and industry representatives is proposed, as per the Terms of Reference outlined in this document.

### **2 Purpose**

The purpose of the Mount Maunganui Air Quality Working Party is to bring together agencies, communities and industry to formulate actions which will contribute to improving air quality in the Mount Maunganui Airshed.

To achieve this the Working Party will collectively inform an overarching goal, being zero exceedances of the National Environmental Standard, to benefit the health of impacted communities.

### **3 Membership**

Representatives from the following will form the Working Party membership:

1. Councillors from Bay of Plenty Regional Council;
2. Councillors from Tauranga City Council;
3. Appointed representative from Bay of Plenty District Health Board;

4. Appointed representative from Ngāi Te Rangi iwi;
5. Appointed representative from the Whareroa Marae community;
6. Appointed representative from a community group such as Clear the Air;
7. Appointed representative from the Ministry for the Environment;
8. Appointed representative from the Mount Maunganui business / industrial community.

Partner agency staff will support the Working Party.

By collective agreement with members, additional meeting attendees from other agencies or groups may attend Working Party meetings.

Members may appoint alternatives.

Members will be responsible for reporting back to their respective organisations.

## 4 Functions and Targets

The Mount Maunganui Air Quality Working Party has the following functions and targets to achieve the purpose:

- a) Whakatohatoha - *share*: provide regular updates and share information, progress and research on air quality matters in the airshed;
- b) Identify significant existing and emerging issues affecting the air quality in the Mount Maunganui Airshed;
- c) Whakataurite - *coordinate*: contribute to the work being done in the Mount Maunganui Airshed;
- d) Whakawhanaungatanga - *involve*: promote and support tangata whenua and wider community participation in air quality work;
- e) Promote options, initiatives, and best practices that will achieve the desired outcomes of improving air quality to achieve compliance with the NESAQ.
- f) Whakarongo - *listen*: ensure the views of tangata whenua and the wider community are represented in the work being done;
- g) Take opportunities to promote the reduction of PM<sub>10</sub> discharges in the Mount Maunganui Airshed;

## 5 Actions

The Mount Maunganui Air Quality Working Party is not a decision making body, but will promote and pursue the reduction of all air emissions within the Mount Maunganui Airshed that may cause adverse health effects by considering:

- a) The review of the new Air Quality Rules for the Industrial Airshed in the Regional Natural Resources Plan to ensure they are fit for purpose;
- b) The outcomes of the Tauranga Moana Advisory Group recommendation to:

*commission an independent, comprehensive report to investigate the potential for instigating a managed retreat of pollutant industries from the Totara Rd site south of Hewletts Road.*

- c) Submissions on local and central government legislative reviews including district & city planning documents;
- d) Other associated mechanisms jointly agreed to; and
- e) Communicating consistent messaging.

## **6 Administration**

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council will administer the Working Party. This includes: coordinating the agenda, minute-taking and distribution of meeting minutes to the respective organisations.

## **7 Meeting Frequency**

Meetings will be quarterly unless agreed by the group at each meeting.

## **8 Duration of Mount Maunganui Air Quality Working Party**

The Working Party will review annually their impact on air quality within the Mount Maunganui Airshed and their need to continue. Collectively members can, at any time, make a decision as to the effectiveness of the working group, its value and longevity.

## Attachment 1: Mount Maunganui Industrial Airshed boundary.

