

16<sup>th</sup> February 2021



To the Chief Executive  
Hawke's Bay Regional Council  
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Napier

*Specialists in Solid Waste Disposal since 1986*  
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Attn: Greg Shirras – emailed to (due to COVID19 Level change) [greg.shirras@hbrc.govt.nz](mailto:greg.shirras@hbrc.govt.nz)

**SUBMISSION FOR:** HDC/NCC Joint Application for the Omarunui Landfill APP-125003

**FROM:** Robert & Deborah Burnside – Clean Earth Ltd  
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We wish to have the opportunity to be heard by Council in respect of our submission in the event any hearing is required.

## **BACKGROUND**

Together we operate one of the few privately owned and operated front load general waste collection companies in New Zealand and have been actively involved in the collection of waste and recyclables in Hawke's Bay since 1986.

Our environmental initiatives have been recognised locally and nationally with the local Environmental Awards, nominations for the Green Ribbon Awards and a 35<sup>th</sup> equal placing in the New River Survey that had us in the top 50 NZ Companies making an environmental difference in New Zealand.

We have been regular submitters to Council on Waste and Recycling throughout that period.

## **WE SUPPORT THE APPLICATION FOR A RESOURCE CONSENT FOR THIS NECESSARY PIECE OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVING THE HAWKE'S BAY COMMUNITY.**

- We support the application as private ratepayers in Hawke's Bay
- We support the application as business operators that utilise the Landfill for the disposal of general waste, that otherwise has no alternative suitable disposal site in this region

- We receive no Council or Government funding of any kind for our operations in waste and recycling
- We do not operate a competing facility to the Landfill, but in accordance with the objectives of the joint WMMP pro-actively seek to find alternatives to landfill that are locally or NZ based and that genuinely offer real recycling, reduction, reuse or conversion to energy opportunities
- We note that our Omarunui facility is a well operated, modern sanitary landfill and any objectors to this application that have submitted on the basis of issues surrounding historical landfill operation in NZ (basically open dumps) should be soundly dismissed as that is not the case with this facility
- The Landfill is vital to all job creators, producers and exporters that we service in Hawke's Bay as no matter what reduction activities are engaged in, there is always residual waste that will and does require safe landfilling
- By way of note, as there is often confusion, a Landfill is not designed for the 'breakdown of waste' – it is a long-term storage facility for waste, that is its sole function and purpose
- We support and affirm our continued preference that our local Omarunui landfill remains a fully community owned facility via the Council Shareholdings, perpetually excluding the interference or part ownership of overseas business interests, as has occurred in other regions to the detriment of those regions, in our view
- Any refusal to grant this consent will, on balance, hold a greater negative environmental impact involving significant distance to transport waste out of Hawke's Bay as well as the economic impact, which you also have a responsibility to consider

### **WE ASK THE HBRC TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION FROM THE NCC AND HDC ENTIRELY**

Our request to speak to our submission is really to make ourselves available to you as a resource for questions when considering this application. As foundation operatives, utilising the landfill since its inception, we believe we may be of value to the HBRC when considering this application and would thank you for that opportunity either formally or informally.

Thankyou for our consideration of our submission in support of our application.

Yours sincerely,



Deborah & Robert Burnside  
Clean Earth Ltd  
Where we're local – like you!



Locally owned and operated - Highly Commended Environmental Awards 2003 Environmental Award Winners 2007 Top 50 Companies in NZ making an environmental difference - New River Survey *We actively encourage sustainable recycling*