

# Consultation Summary

## Continuing earthquake processing and disposal activities at Burwood Resource Recovery Park and Burwood Landfill

Burwood Resource Recovery Park Limited (BRRP Ltd) and Christchurch City Council are seeking new resource consents at Burwood Resource Recovery Park and Burwood Landfill as they want to continue earthquake processing and disposal activities until December 2020.

Additional time is needed to complete existing activities and to create new earthquake waste cells within the landfill.

Based on current (2015) projections, it is anticipated that earthquake waste processing and disposal activities will have finished by the end of 2020. Landscaping activities and ongoing restoration and will take place over the next six years and be completed by 31 December 2021.

Key activities associated with the resource consent proposals are controlled activities, so the resource consents cannot be declined (subject to conditions to manage the environmental effects). Written comments are invited from key partners and residents. This feedback will assist BRRP Ltd and the Council with finalising the proposals and the resource consent applications, and shape the actions proposed to restore the environment.

### Why resource consents are needed

BRRP Ltd and the Council need resource consents to:

- 1) Continue recovery park and landfill operations and ancillary activities until 31 December 2020 (at all sites - see enclosed map for site locations);
- 2) Extend the existing waste cell (at Site A) to provide for the disposal of up to 160,000 tonnes of residual earthquake waste from the recovery park;
- 3) Develop a new earthquake waste cell (at Site G) to provide for the disposal of up to 540,000 tonnes of residual earthquake waste from the recovery park;
- 4) Continue the temporary storage (until 31 December 2020) of sensitive demolition materials (at Site D) from buildings where human lives were lost during the earthquakes;
- 5) Continue infrastructure hardfill and soil disposal (at Site F) until 31 December 2020;
- 6) Continue sludge pond operations (at Site P) until 31 December 2017; and
- 7) Restore all sites over time; with all rehabilitation and landscaping completed by 31 December 2021.



Recovery park stockpile (Site B), October 2015

### Updated environmental assessments and mitigation

The 2012 environmental assessments will be comprehensively updated. Here are some key highlights of the current proposals:

- All the environmental mitigation developed with the community and consent authorities in 2012 for the existing resource consents will be rolled over into the new consents (unless minor changes are needed for current proposals or circumstances);
- BRRP will continue to only accept building demolition material; no general domestic refuse or hazardous waste enters the recovery park;
- Operating hours will be reduced by 30 hours a week. The proposed hours are 6am to 6pm from Monday to Friday, 6am to 12pm on Saturdays and closed on Sunday and public holidays.
- Average monthly heavy vehicle movements to the sites have reduced by more than 33 per cent since the peak in mid to late 2014 and are expected to continue tailing off;
- The geological characteristics of the underlying land and the existing municipal waste landfill mean the sites are ideally suited to managing leachate and any water quality effects. Water in the nearby coastal environment continues to meet recreational standards;
- Drinking water supplies are not affected by the activities;
- The processing and disposal sites remain at a suitable distance from residential dwellings (~600m at the closest), so any adverse effects from noise, dust and odour can be managed;
- Some areas will become available to the public for recreation before operations finish in December 2020 (subject to health and safety requirements);

- The landscape rehabilitation plan developed with the community (see the plan enclosed with this flyer) will be updated for the new waste cells (Site A extension and Site G). BRRP Ltd and the Council will continue to work closely with the community to develop and finalise the plan and the timing of the rehabilitation programme; and
- The comprehensive management plans prepared for the 2012 consents have been updated and will be included in the application for new resource consents.

### Background

The Canterbury earthquakes generated unprecedented amounts of demolition waste. Burwood Resource Recovery Park (BRRP) was established in Bottle Lake Forest, initially under emergency provisions by the Civil Defence National Controller, to receive this earthquake waste and allow for its sorting and recycling. In July 2011, the Government enacted the *Canterbury Earthquake (Resource Management Act—Burwood Resource Recovery Park) Order 2011* (Order in Council), which required the facility to obtain resource consents from Environment Canterbury (ECan) and Christchurch City Council.

In November 2011, the Minister for Earthquake Recovery gave public notice, under Section 27 of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011, of amendments to the Christchurch City Plan and Natural Resources Regional Plan. These amendments provided for the permanent disposal, at the Burwood Landfill, of residual earthquake waste from the BRRP facility as well as other earthquake waste from around the city. As with the Order in Council, resource consents were needed for earthquake waste disposal.

This effectively created a streamlined consent process for BRRP and Burwood Landfill in recognition of the critical importance of these activities to the recovery of Christchurch.

Following consultation with the community and other key stakeholders, resource consents were obtained by BRRP Ltd (for the recovery park) and the Council (for the landfill) in September 2012. Community feedback saw comprehensive conditions attached to the consents in order to manage environmental effects. Mitigation included installing 500m of acoustic fencing at the site entrance, limiting traffic speeds along the site access roads, dust mitigation and monitoring. These consents expire in September 2017.

### Current resource consent and consultation process

The significance of the BRRP and landfill activities to Christchurch's recovery continues to be recognised through the Order in Council, and through recent changes to the Land and Water Regional Plan. The key activities associated with the proposals are controlled

activities, meaning the relevant resource consents cannot be declined (subject to conditions to manage the environmental effects). The streamlined process provides an opportunity for written comments to be provided by key stakeholders, including Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu, Canterbury District Health Board, and residents.

The consent applicants, BRRP Ltd and the Council, are consulting with stakeholders so their comments can be considered before resource consents applications are finalised and lodged. Written comments from affected parties will also be invited once applications are lodged.