19 March 2024



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Tēnā koe

EPA seeks views on calling in Te Awamutu waste-to-energy resource consent applications

The Minister for the Environment (the Minister) is considering calling in resource consent applications from Global Contracting Solution Limited to construct and permanently operate a waste-to-energy incinerator located on 11 Ha of a 64.1 Ha property at 401 Racecourse Road, Te Awamutu (the matter). We note you have previously requested that the Minister call in the matter in a letter dated 7 February 2024.

On 12 March 2024, the Minister requested the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to advise the Minister on whether the matter is, or is part of, a proposal of national significance. The EPA's advice must include a recommendation as to whether or not the Minister should call the matter in, and if called in, whether to refer it to a Board of Inquiry or the Environment Court.

In deciding whether to make a direction to call in the matter, the Minister must have regard to the views of the local authority and its capacity to process the matter.

Accordingly, we are seeking your views on:

- Whether the matter is, or is part of, a proposal of national significance and why, particularly in respect of the factors set out in section 142(3)(a) of the Resource Management Act (RMA);
- Whether the Minister should call in the matter and why;
- If the matter is called in, whether the Minster should direct the matters to be decided by a Board of Inquiry or the Environment Court, and why;
- Your Council's capacity to process this matter; and

• Any other information you consider may be relevant to the Minister's decision.

The EPA's advice to the Minister is due within 20 working days of the request (**11 April 2024**). We will provide you and the applicant a copy of our advice and recommendation. We would appreciate hearing from you by the close of business on **Tuesday 2 April**. Please advise us as soon as possible if this timeframe is not workable for you.

If you have any questions, please contact Jillian Kennemore at <u>Jillian.Kennemore@epa.govt.nz</u> or by phone on 04 474 5507 or 027 641 7250.

Nāku noa, nā

Khunk

Jillian Kennemore Project Leader Land and Oceans Applications