

Public Notice of Amendments to Waikato Regional Plan

Waikato Regional Council gives notice that, in accordance with s55(2A) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), the Waikato Regional Plan has been amended to include policies required by the National Policy Statement for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat (NPSGG 2023).

On 27 July 2023, the NPSGG 2023 came into force. This directs regional councils to amend regional plans to include the policies set out in clauses 3.2 and 3.3 of the NPSGG 2023, without using the process in Schedule 1 to the RMA.

As of 12 April 2024, the following policies have been inserted into Section 6.1.3 of Chapter 6 – Air Module of the Waikato Regional Plan:

Policy 6: Cumulative Effects

Before granting a resource consent for the discharge of greenhouse gases to air from heat devices on a site, the regional council must:

- a) consider the total discharges of greenhouse gases from all heat devices on the site that the application relates to; and
- a) recognise that, cumulatively, all discharges of greenhouse gases resulting from the production of industrial process heat, regardless of volume, contribute to climate change, and any reduction in greenhouse gas emissions contributes to mitigating climate change.

Policy 7: Updating Emission Plans

When considering an emissions plan as part of an application for a resource consent for a restricted discretionary activity relating to discharges to air of greenhouse gases from heat devices, the regional council must consider:

- a) the timing and content of updates of the emissions plan to be made by the holder of the consent; and
- a) how those updates will reflect changes in technology and best practices.

To access the Waikato Regional Plan online go to the Waikato Regional Council e-plan website at <https://eplan.waikatoregion.govt.nz/eplan>. Click the link 'Read entire plan' and navigate to Waikato Regional Plan to view a copy of the plan incorporating the above changes. You can also download the Waikato Regional Plan in pdf format at <https://waikatoregion.govt.nz/council/policy-and-plans/rules-and-regulation/regional-plan/> incorporating the above changes.

To access the Government's information on the National Policy Statement for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat go to the website at National Policy Statement for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat 2023 | Ministry for the Environment.

Paper copies of the Waikato Regional Plan are available at Waikato Regional Council's Customer Services for the cost set in the Fees and Charges in the annual plan.

CDA McLay
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www.waikatoregion.govt.nz