

PIPELINE!

Southern Pipeline Project Update

Would you be happy to water your garden with treated wastewater?

The Mayor and Councillors commissioned an independent review of the Southern Pipeline before committing to the \$106M project. The reviewers were Ian Law (IBL Solutions) and Garry Macdonald (Beca Ltd).

Last month the reviewers reported back to Council. They recommended Council re-assess its 'business as usual' approach to wastewater management by promoting the supply of ultra high quality treated wastewater for non-potable (non-drinkable) reuse.

The 'business as usual' approach to wastewater management is to send wastewater from the southern catchments (ie Tauriko) across the harbour to Te Maunga for treatment. After that it gets discharged into the ocean.

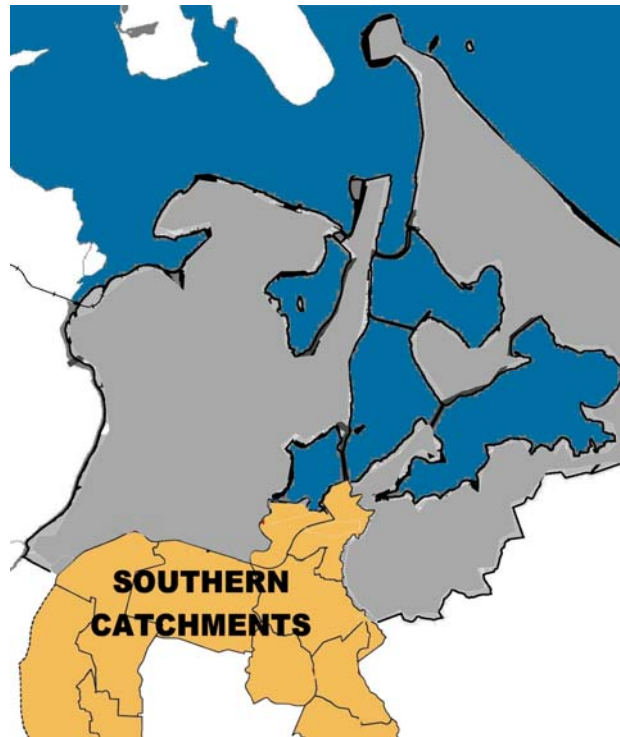
The reviewers suggested that Council further investigate the option to divert wastewater from the southern catchments to a **new** treatment plant at Tauriko. The water would need to be treated to a very high standard and then made available for reuse. Excess water would be discharged into the Kopurererua Stream. This option would mean the southern-most section of the pipeline doesn't need to be built. (The review agreed that the pipeline is still urgently needed from Memorial Park to Te Maunga.)

Following the reviewers' recommendations Council has asked for the 'third treatment plant' concept to be fully evaluated.

Reusing wastewater

All wastewater would be treated using an advanced, chemically assisted Membrane BioReactor (MBR) treatment process. All discharges would pass through a wetland before entering the Kopurererua Stream. Of the MBR treated effluent, up to 50% would be further treated using Reverse Osmosis (RO) treatment process. The RO water would be available for non-potable (non-drinkable) reuse.

Over the next few weeks Council will canvas key stakeholders to get a feel for people's attitude to the concept of reusing treated wastewater.



A possible new treatment plant would service the southern catchments instead of diverting their waste to Te Maunga.

More issues to consider

A new treatment plant would need to discharge treated effluent into the Kopurererua Stream. In addition to the economic, engineering and environmental considerations, Council will consider the cultural and social effects of this proposal.

The Next Step

A report is being prepared to provide Council with a detailed evaluation of the options. This report will be considered by Council on 31 July.

Resource Consent Hearings

The resource consent applications for the railbridge upgrade, Memorial to Strand walkway and the Devonport Road options are proceeding. Hearings are expected to be in late August or September.



For more information please phone
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