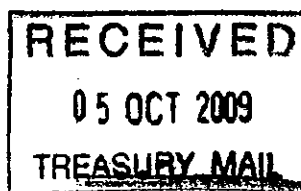


1 October 2009

The Executive Director
National Infrastructure Unit
The Treasury
PO Box 3724
Wellington



GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Office of the Mayor

Tena koe Mike James

"Towards the First National Infrastructure Plan"

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Treasury paper entitled 'Infrastructure: Facts and Issues' which we understand to be a precursor to a National Infrastructure Plan.

The Gisborne District Council considers that wastewater treatment and disposal is not given the priority in the paper that it deserves. In para 195 of the paper for example it is stated that "we (the Treasury) are currently seeking further information" on the background and history of waste water services.

In a recent BBC 'Hardtalk' interview, Sir David King who was the UK Chief Science Advisor for 2000 to 2007 identified the civil engineering contribution to waste water treatment as the foundation upon which modern economies have been built. Without these developments which are nearly two centuries old, none of the health benefits, the global cities, trade, capital markets and the like, would have been possible.

Council believes that it continues to be in the national interest, economically and in terms of good quality environments, for waste water services to be a national priority for funding. Local communities, especially those with higher deprivation indices, cannot afford the investment that the modern world requires. Given the national benefits, Council believes that the National Infrastructure Plan should recognise and provide funding for waste water infrastructure investment.

While the health of the community and the health of the environment are the key drivers, two other outcomes that the Council supports are the "100% pure" concept of Tourism NZ and the national interest in coastal water quality.

Funding support will also help poorer economies and poor communities by making businesses viable and providing people with a reasonable standard of living.

N121160

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The criteria for central government funding support could include -

- Plants must be new
- Plants must be consent ready
- Plants must be designed and ready to go to tender
- Councils must have a deprivation index of 8 or more
- Central government funding be not more than 50% of the total capital cost

Council thanks you for considering this submission.

Kia ora,



 Meng Foon, JP
Mayor



GISBORNE
NEW ZEALAND

Meng Foon

Mayor

廖振明

市长

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VISION: To encourage our community to build
Gisborne/Tairāwhiti into an outstanding region making
our place the first choice to live, play and do business.