



National Environment Service
GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS
PO Box 371, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, Phone (682) 21256,
www.environment.gov.ck

Monday, 18th July 2022

Mr. Andy Kirkwood

Te Vai Ora Maori (TVOM)

Ngatangia

RAROTONGA

Kia Orana Mr. Kirkwood,

**Request on Status of TTV Project Permit Approvals & Conditions - Water Treatment Plant,
Temporary & Permanent Sludge Storage Sites**

The National Environment Service (NES) acknowledges your request for information received via email by our office on the 29th of June 2022. NES responded to your request on 4th July 2022 as part of the process and compliance to the Official Information Act 2008 (“OIA”).

Upon thorough consideration of your request and in compliance with the OIA, a decision to release the information requested pursuant to S.14 of the OIA is granted for the projects in question regarding the permit approval status and accompanying conditions granted by the Rarotonga Environment Authority (REA).

Please find details below as per request:

1. NES confirms the **Status** of the Project Permit Approval for Water Treatment Plants, Sludge Disposal Sites and Sludge Disposal Facilities. The Rarotonga Environment Authority (REA/ Permitting Authority) approved the following project applications:

- a. Project Permit Application by EIA for the Water Treatment Plants for all water intakes on Rarotonga approved on Thursday, 25th November 2021 (**Ref: Project Permit # 2021/004RAR**)
 - b. Project Permit Application by EIA for Sludge Storage at Rarotonga Waste Facility in Arorangi approved on 25th November 2021 (**Ref: Project Permit # 2021/01/RAR**)
 - c. Project Permit Application by EIA for Sludge Disposal Facility on land, Airaura 88H, Arorangi District in Arorangi approved on Monday, 18th April 2022 (**Ref: Project Permit # 2022/005RAR**)
2. NES confirms that all three (3) project permits above were granted with strict Conditions attached throughout the duration of each project. Please see extensive details on each Project Conditions below:

Project Permit # 2021/004RAR – To Tatou Vai Water Treatment Plants, Onsite Discharge - All Water Intakes on Rarotonga. Approval granted, Thursday 25th November 2021

Conditions

1. That the approval is for the proposed works only, *ie. Refer Project Description above*, and that any deviation or variation to the proposed works, the approval of the Environment Authority must be obtained to such deviation or variation;
2. That the Environment Service be advised 24 hours before any work is to commence on site for monitoring purposes;
3. The Project Owner, their Agents and Contractors shall be aware of Health and Safety, Environmental and Employment Laws, Regulations and Policy and shall comply with these requirements at all times.
 - Shall be responsible for the health and safety of all those working on the site and for seeing that its actions or failure to act do not harm any other person.
 - Shall be responsible for the effects of the work on health and safety of its employees, subcontractors and the Public;
4. That the Project Owner or person/s as designated by the project owner notifies MOH, NES of their intentions to make a discharge a week before a discharge is to happen on site;

5. Further to 4 above, a further testing must be done to confirm that the discharge is safe for discharge;
6. That the applicant is liable for any damages, if any, to the surrounding land environment as a result of the proposed work on site;
7. That the Project Owner and Engineer at the completion of the project must inform and submit a brief report on the project to the National Environment Service;
8. To ensure that NES staff and Project Engineer is onsite before any release or discharge is made;
9. That any future development on the site must seek the approval of the Rarotonga Environment Authority;

Project Permit # 2021/019RAR Temporary Sludge Storage at Rarotonga Waste Facility, Arorangi – RAROTONGA. Approval by the REA on 25th November 2021

▪ **Conditions**

1. That the approval is for the proposed works only, *ie. Refer Project Description above*, and that any deviation or variation to the proposed works, the approval of the Environment Authority must be obtained to such deviation or variation.
2. That the Environment Service be advised 24 hours before any activity is to commence on-site for monitoring purposes.
3. The Project Owner, their Agents and Contractors shall be responsible for Health and Safety, Environment and Employment Laws, Regulations and Policy at all times, specifically:
 - Shall be responsible for the health and safety of all those working on the site and for seeing that its actions or failure to act do not harm any other person.
 - Shall be responsible for the effects of the work on health and safety of its employees, subcontractors and the public.
4. That the Project Owner or person/s as designated by the project owner notifies MOH, and NES a minimum of seven (7) working days before any sludge storage is to occur on-site;
5. That the applicant is liable for any damages, if any, to the surrounding land environment as a result of the proposed work and activity on-site.
6. That the Project Owner and Engineer submit a monthly monitoring report to the NES at each stage or batches of discharges into the surrounding environment for a minimum of six (6) months after receiving permit approval and to inform NES of any deviations from the safe standard practices outlined in the EIA.
7. To ensure that NES staff and Project Engineer(s) is on-site before any significant work or activity (above normal) is to commence on-site;

8. That the Project Engineer strictly follows guidelines/plans/specifications that have been submitted to the National Environment Service as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report;
9. That the Project Engineer supervises and monitors the proposed work and submits to the National Environment Service within 10 days after the six (6) month monitoring activity a monitoring report:
 - Verifying that the discharges from the intakes meet with standard health and safety standard (s) and
 - Recommending changes and rectification activity to enhance the quality of the discharge liquid and
 - Verifying that all activities do not impact in the surrounding environment.

This permit is valid for **12 months** from the issue date of this notice and is not transferable.

Project Permit # 2022/005RAR To Tatou Vai (TTV) – Sludge Disposal Facility, VAIRAUARA 88H, ARORANGI DISTRICT – RAROTONGA. Project Permit granted by the Rarotonga Environment Authority on 18th April 2022.

□ **Conditions**

1. That the Environment Service be advised 24 hours before any work is to commence on site for monitoring purposes;
2. That the approval is for the proposed work only (*refer to Project Description above*), and if the Project Owner desire to deviate from or vary the proposed work, the approval of the Environment Authority must be obtained to such deviation or variation;
3. That the Project Owner is advised to seek or surveyor input to mark out the limits of the Proposed Project, so to enable Contractors to perform correctly.
4. Where applicable, the Applicant or person/s as designated by the project owner notifies and advises nearby residents prior to and during the construction phase of the project;
5. That the Project Owner is advised to seek or surveyor input to mark out the limits of the Proposed Project, so to enable Contractors to perform correctly;
6. That the Project Owner takes into consideration mitigation measures with regards to erosion control methods;
7. The Project Owner, their Agents and Contractors shall be aware of Health and Safety, Environmental and Employment Laws, Regulations and Policy and shall comply with these requirements at all times.

- Shall be responsible for the health and safety of all those working on the site and for seeing that its actions or failure to act do not harm any other person.
 - Shall be responsible for the effects of the work on health and safety of its employees, subcontractors and the Public.
8. That rehabilitation practices of relocating or transplant of native species, coconut, citrus & mango trees etc. on the property;
 9. That the applicant is liable for any damages, if any, to the surrounding land properties as a result of the proposed work on site;
 10. That the Applicant/Engineer or person/s as designated by the applicant supervises the work to be carried out at all times.
 11. That the Project Owner at the completion of the project must inform and submit a brief report on the project to the National Environment Service.
 12. To ensure that NES staff and Project owner onsite before any work commences
 13. Composting practices of vegetation cleared to be utilized on site or carted away by contractor
 14. That all rubbish debris must be carted off or left on the site and not dumped in nearby sections;
 15. That the contractor and Project Owner carry out the earthworks during the dry season to minimise damage to the property, and All EARTHWORKS MUST STOP ON WET CONDITIONS.
 16. That All conditions to be followed and monitored accordingly to the application stated above;
 17. That any future development on the site must seek the approval of the Rarotonga Environment Authority;

This permit is valid for a period of **12 months** from the issue date of this notice, and is not transferable.

We conclude the conditions set as per above. May we take this opportunity to thank you for your request. Please do not hesitate to contact our office on telephone 21256 or email us directly for further information on resources@cookislands.gov.ck or visit our website on <https://environment.gov.ck/>.

Kia Manuia,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Halatoa Fua', written in a cursive style.

Halatoa Fua
Director
National Environment Service



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT SERVICE
TU'ANGA TAPOROPORO
COOK ISLANDS

This Permit is valid for **12 months** from the issue date of this notice and is not transferable;

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vavia'.

Mr Vavia Tangatataia
Chairman – Interim
RAROTONGA ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY

