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## Report 99.71

15 February 1999

FileE/7/10/17

### MEETING OF WELLINGTON CONSERVATION BOARD 12 FEBRUARY 1999

I attended as the WRC representative. The following matters of note arose.

1. The Board has a rather scattergun approach. The Minister has asked it politely to **concentrate** rather more on policy advice and assistance to DOC.
2. The issue of land about to be sold by Hutt CC **adjoining** the entrance to the Eastbourne entrance of the East Harbour Regional Park was raised. It is apparently zoned residential and many residents want to see it used in some way associated with the Park, ie information centre or some such. They have apparently made their feelings known to Ian Buchanan.
3. A number of concessions agreed to by DOC in the region have not been referred to the Board for scrutiny. Several involve use of helicopters and there is concern about noise pollution. DOC has been particularly generous toward concessionaires in the opinion of many members of the board.
4. The problem of sewage treatment at Waikanae came up. The proposal to pump sewage direct from Waikanae to the Paraparaumu plant { as a result of inadequacies in the Waikanae pond system } is not popular. Traffic jams are predicted at the mazenbarb drain with dire consequences. The board is expected to ask for more detailed consideration of the alternatives at the hearing on 15 march. Environment Committee { Ian B. } has already been given the **benefit** of the community organisations' views on this. ) It was also pointed out that community organisations will oppose any kind of sea outfall as an alternative, They want land-based treatment. Just where, nobody can agree.
5. A deputation from the local Iwi forcefully presented its objections to the proposed Castlepoint Jetty. Various allegations as to complicity of some Wairarapa local body politicians in getting the consent through were made. Local community organisations are supporting the Iwi in opposing any jetty at all and there appear to be significant ecological implications in the proposal. The Board supports the objection but cannot afford legal representation at the appeal hearing. It will be represented by its Iwi member at the appeal.
6. The **Kotuku** Parks subdivision was raised. KEA approached the Board for support in its appeal to the Environment Court against the consent involved. The Board agreed to send a letter of support, it being unable to afford to engage legal counsel to help fight the appeal. There are, it seems, substantial ecological considerations at stake and the local community organisation **intends** to fight the appeal to the deathknock.
7. The board has done a submission on changes to the R MA, opposing most of the changes proposed. It reflects the strong feelings of environmental organisations represented. It makes the WRC submission look quite reasonable. A copy of this and other relevant papers has been sent to Environment Division.

*Chris Landon*

15/2/99