

Wellington Regional Council Special Order Resolution

Alteration of Differential Rating System for Bovine Tb Vector Control Rate

The Wellington Regional Council hereby resolves, by way of Special Order, pursuant to Sections 34, 80 and 84 of the Rating Powers Act 1988, Section 716B of the Local Government Act 1974, and all other provisions enabling it in that behalf, as follows:

1. That the system of differential rating set out below be introduced with effect from 1 July 2000.
2. That the system of differential rating shall apply to Works and Services rate, to be known as the Bovine Tb Vector Control Rate, made and levied by the Wellington Regional Council pursuant to section 34 of the Rating Powers Act 1988 on the area of all rateable property in that part of the Wellington Region determined by the Council to be the area of benefit from Bovine Tb vector control works, such that the rate made and levied in respect of any specified category of property shall vary from the rate made and levied in respect of any other specified category of property as set out in this Special Order.
3. That for the purposes of this Special Order, properties in the area of benefit shall be divided into the following categories:

Category 1 - Operational Areas

Rateable land receiving a direct benefit from Council's Bovine Tb vector control works, being properties over 10 hectares in area situated in those areas designated on Classification Roll 1.

Category 2 - Non-Operational Areas

Rateable land receiving an indirect benefit from Council's Bovine Tb vector control works, being properties over 10 hectares in area situated in those areas designated on Classification Roll 2.

Notes

- (i) For the purpose of these definitions, direct benefit has been assessed by reference to works specifically programmed by the Council in its Bovine Tb vector control programme.
- (ii) The categories of property described in this Special Order are more particularly set out in Plans held by the Council.

(iii) Where any separately rateable property falls within more than one differential category the Classification Rolls will identify the total hectares in each rateable area.

4. In each rating year the amount per hectare of the Bovine Tb Vector Control Rate shall be calculated in respect of the differential categories as follows:

4.1 The amount per hectare for Category 1 - Operational Areas shall be such as to produce 90% of the total required revenue.

4.2 The total amounts per hectare for Category 2 - Non Operations Areas shall be such as to produce 10% of the total required revenue.

5. That in accordance with section 84(1)(c) of the Rating Powers Act 1988, the following statement be made on the alteration of the differential system:

A. Matters taken into account in preparing the proposed introduction of the system of differential rating:

The Council has, in consultation with ratepayers, the Animal Health Board and Agri-Quality NZ, developed a regional Bovine Tb Operational Plan for the containment and reduction of the incidence of Bovine Tb in the Wellington Region. The plan identifies high-risk areas, which have been designated "operational areas". It is acknowledged that certain non-operational areas, particularly those adjacent to operational areas will receive an indirect benefit from activities carried out in operational areas.

The Council has taken account of the following matters:

- (i) The degree of Bovine Tb vector infestation in different areas.
- (ii) The reported and known incidence of Bovine Tb vector infestation in different areas.
- (iii) The -likelihood of the spread of Bovine Tb through possum and other vector infestation.
- (iv) The effects of possum infestation upon forestry and agricultural land generally.

In relation to the extent to which steps have been taken by or on behalf of occupiers to reduce or control Bovine Tb vector infestation, the Council has given consideration to such measures by reducing the rates on the property to the level of a Category 2 property.

In relation to the use or uses to which different pieces of land are put the Council has considered the importance of the control of possums in particular for agricultural and forestry activities and has also taken into account the reduced significance the control of possums infestation has for urban and industrial land.

The Council has also considered the overall economic benefit to the region, arising from the control of Bovine Tb vector infestation and the reduction in the incidence of Bovine Tb. The reduction and eventual eradication of Bovine Tb in the region will have a direct economic benefit to those ratepayers engaged in cattle and deer farming, and indirect benefit to other ratepayers involved in agriculture or forestry. In addition, ratepayers of the region generally will benefit from the contribution to the sustainability of the rural economy and the major conservation benefits that the Council's pest management activities will make.

B. The proposed types or groups of property for differential rating

The differential categories are set out in paragraph 3 of this Special Order.