

FACT SHEET

PROTECTING COUNCIL'S WASTEWATER DRAINAGE NETWORK FROM HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Resource Management Act

This vests Council with the prevention and mitigation of any adverse effects of the storage, use, disposal, or transportation, of hazardous substances. District Plan provisions include requirements for:

The storage, use or disposal of any hazardous substances shall be carried out in a manner that prevents:

- *corrosion or alteration of the containers used;*
- *any unintentional leakages or spills.*

All locations on a site where hazardous substances are manufactured, mixed, stored, handled, loaded or unloaded must be designed and managed to:

- *contain any accidental spills of hazardous substances;*
- *prevent any illegal discharges to the environment.*

Spill containment systems should:

- *be constructed from impervious materials;*
- *shelter drums of other containers used;*
- *contain any spill of hazardous substances, or discharges of contaminated storm water or waste water, from fire fighting*

Any storm water originating on a site must be drained and managed to prevent accidental contamination with hazardous substances.

Any locations on a site where contaminated vehicles, equipment or containers are washed must be designed and managed so that the contaminated wash water cannot be discharged to the environment, unless permitted to do so.

Hazardous facilities must be adequately sign posted.

Hazardous substances must be clearly labelled and backed up by Material Safety Data Sheets.

The disposal of waste hazardous substances must be undertaken only via suitable contractors and to approved facilities which hold relevant permits.

Hazardous wastes must not be discharged to the environment or the public sewerage system unless permitted to do so.

Council's Water Services and Trade Waste Bylaws mandated by The Local Government Act.

This Bylaw controls and monitors these substances, and prescribes any pre-treatment works required for any hazardous substance before being authorised for acceptance into Council's wastewater drainage networks.

Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act and Regulations

HSNO requirements are minimum requirements which need to be met in all parts of New Zealand. Requirements cannot specify any thing lesser than those specified by HSNO.

These also decide how much containment you require on your site for any hazardous substance storage and spillage containment, and may require your site to be tested periodically.

The Building Regulations 1992-NZ Building Code clause F3 Hazardous substances and processes

These enable Council, as the drainage network operator, to decide if the hazardous substance you are using or disposing of cannot be discharged into Council's sewer or storm water drains and prescribes the performance standards of any building works required to store, contain, use, treat or prevent it from entering Council's drains.

Please contact a Rotorua District Council pollution control officer for help if your property has hazardous substances on site and is connected to, or can discharge into, one of Council's drainage networks. Phone: 07 348 4199