

Tasman District Council Water Safety Consultation

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For more information please contact:

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Submitter details

1. Nelson Marlborough Health (Nelson Marlborough District Health Board) (NMH) is a key organisation involved in the health and wellbeing of the people within Te Tau Ihu. NMH appreciates the opportunity to comment from a public health perspective on the Tasman District Council's Water Safety Consultation
2. NMH makes this submission in recognition of its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and the Health Act 1956.
3. This submission sets out particular matters of interest and concern to NMH.

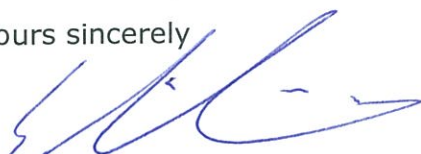
Specific Comments

4. NMH strongly supports TDC's proposal to permanently use residual disinfection (chlorine) in all Council water supplies. Multiple treatments that include residual disinfection are part of a "multi-barrier approach is the most effective way to achieve a safe water supply. This approach protects the health of Tasman residents and manages the risk of contamination events, of which there have been a number in most of the currently un-chlorinated supplies, within the recent past.
5. NMH notes that the Water Services Bill that has recently been presented to Parliament contains within clause 57 the following statement – "Subject to subsection (5), the drinking water safety plan must provide for the use of residual disinfection in the supply". Subsection 5 refers to a provision whereby the regulator may exempt a supplier from this provision. Clause 57 is a very clear signal that residual disinfectants such as chlorine may become mandatory for most water supplies.

Conclusion

6. NMH thanks the Tasman District Council for the opportunity to comment on the Water Safety Consultation.
7. NMH wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

Yours sincerely



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