

**City of Tauranga District Plan Review
Hazardous Substances**

Hazardous Substances - Basis of Resource Consent Requirements	
Issue Summary	The best way to assess whether a hazardous substance facility requires resource consent when it is proposed to be established or seeks to increase its size or operation.
Introduction	<p>Hazardous substances are considered to be those substances that may negatively impact on human health or the environment through toxicity, explosiveness and flammability.</p> <p>Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) the Council is required to control the actual or potential effects of hazardous substances.</p> <p>In considering how to control these effects the Council must give effect to the Regional Policy Statement (RPS). The RPS provides that District Councils in the region will “<i>regulate activities using or storing hazardous substances...through District Plans...</i>”</p>
Identification of Issues	<p><i>Existing Situation</i></p> <p>The current approach in the District Plan is the use of the ‘Hazardous Facilities Screening Procedure’ (HFSP), which is a technical procedure to identify risk associated with a specific hazardous substance in a particular circumstance (manner of use, quantity, type of storage). The hazard rating is then relevant to consent requirements based on the nature of each zone. This assessment is technical, in many circumstances requiring particular expertise to establish whether consent is required.</p> <p><i>Some Issues</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is there a way to make the current assessment procedure more user friendly? ▪ Are current provisions adequate where an existing facility proposes to increase size or operation? ▪ Is there a better way of screening applications than via the HFSP?
Description of some options	<p>One option could be to continue to use our current hazardous facilities screening procedure as set out in the District Plan; or</p> <p>We could use of an alternative system of establishing consent requirements, such as thresholds for each substance; or</p> <p>We could consider the introduction of some thresholds that are ‘deemed to comply’ standards for common substances (ie. would meet the HFSP) to provide for ease of interpretation; or</p> <p>You may consider that there is a better option to address this issue or wish to make further comments. If so we would like to hear your thoughts on this matter.</p>
Relevant technical information	<p>For further information regarding the role of district plans in managing hazardous substances, see:</p> <p>www.qualityplanning.org.nz</p>

	<p>Other Hazardous Substances related sites of interest include:</p> <p>www.mfe.govt.nz www.ermanz.govt.nz</p>
Key Contact	<p>If you require any further detail on this issue, or any other matter to do with Hazardous Substances or Education Centre Zones please contact:</p> <p>Ayv Greenway Planner: Environment email: ayvron.greenway@tauranga.govt.nz ddi: 07 577 7329</p> <p>or visit www.taurangadistrictplan.govt.nz</p>