

24 Salcombe Terrace

New Plymouth

22nd November 2012

Dear Mr Chamberlain, Mr McLay, Mr Bedford and Taranaki Regional Councillors

We would like the following points noted and responded to regarding Item 6 on the agenda of Taranaki Regional Council Policy and Planning Committee on 22nd November 2012. This is the Todd Energy Submission on Hydraulic Fracturing to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment.

We oppose Taranaki Regional Council, the environmental regulators of the oil and gas industries, being their chief cheer leaders. We disagree with the endorsement by Todd Energy “the hydraulic fracturing consent framework implemented by TRC should be adopted by other councils”. There appears not even to be an attempt by Taranaki Regional Council to keep themselves at arms length from these industries they regulate and monitor.

We are appalled Taranaki Regional Council presents the Todd Energy submission as “a highly readable document that clearly sets out the process and science relating to hydraulic fracturing, explains Todd Energy’s own operations, and outlines potential environmental effects and mitigation as well as the economic, social and environmental benefits of hydraulic fracturing.”

This is the very oil and gas company who received a poor performance rating from Taranaki Regional Council in an environmental monitoring report last year. Poor performance is the lowest rating a Company can receive. In their submission Todd Energy on pages 74-75 in the

section 5.2.2 Todd's Health, Safety and Environment System states "One (the only) TRC consent breach occurred in Mangaheva-06 on April 2010, when Todd did not notify residents within 1,000 metres of the site at least 24 hours in advance before flaring operations occurred. Todd has since enhanced its community relations and communication strategies to ensure this does not occur again".

However several issues are noted in the Todd Taranaki Mangaheva- C wellsite environmental monitoring report 2009-2010 (March 2011) provided in an email from Mr McLay (attached). The Executive Summary notes 3 incidents and poor performance. Section 2.5 refers to flaring issues and the setting up of video surveillance. The tables from Evaluation of Performance on p.16 also note they have poor and improvement desirable performance about not providing important information to the Council about what they have been doing at the site.

We believe the other serious issue is Mr McLay claims the report was published. There is no Todd Energy Mangaheva-C report presented to the Councillors at the public meetings held every six weeks during 2011. There is no Taranaki Regional Council report relating to Mangaheva-C (March 2011) on the website. We would like to know why.

(Consents and Regulatory meeting, 15th March 2011)

<http://www.trc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/cr1503w.pdf>

<http://www.trc.govt.nz/oil-and-gas-compliance-monitoring-reports/>

As well as this it appears Todd Energy's behaviour is unchanged. At Tuesday's Consents and Regulatory Committee meeting (20th November 2012) it was documented they were fined for not complying with resource conditions and not providing data to show what they had been doing. (see below)

We demand an explanation from Taranaki Regional Council as to

1. Why Taranaki Regional Council are publically endorsing the Todd Energy Submission given the Company has a poor rating on environmental performance and does not appear to be improving?
2. Why was the Todd Energy environmental monitoring report not presented to the Council and published appropriately?

We will also be contacting the Parliamentary Commissioner of the Environment with this and other serious issues arising from the Todd Energy submission.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Roberts, David Morrison and Mike Self

Concerned Taranaki residents

Summary of 'non-compliant' incidents for period 22 September 2012 to 24 October

UIR NO: 13-033, Update
INVESTIGATED BY: Clinton Carré
DATE: Wednesday, 25 July 2012
INCIDENT: Wastewater
SOURCE: Todd Taranaki Ltd
P O Box 802
NEW PLYMOUTH 4340
CONSENT: 3895-2
CATCHMENT: Waitara
TYPE OF EVENT: TRC Staff Compliance Monitoring

COMMENTS: During routine monitoring it was found that resource consent conditions relating to the submission of deep well injection data from three well sites were not being complied with. The data has been requested as per special condition 6 and has not been received to date. Council staff are working with the Company to obtain the information required. Infringement notices were issued for two sites (\$750 each).

ACTIONS TAKEN: Email
Infringement Notices (\$1,500.00 total)

RECOMMENDATION: No Further Action At This Stage

Taranaki Regional Council Consents and Regulatory Committee meeting

Tuesday 20th November 2012

<http://www.trc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/cr2011-web.pdf>

Taranaki Regional Council Policy and Planning Committee meeting

Thursday 22nd November 2012

<http://www.trc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/pp2211-web.pdf>