

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Technical Committee held
in the Council Chamber, 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin
on Wednesday 25 November 2015 commencing at 12.04 pm**

Present:

- Cr Doug Brown (Chairperson)**
- Cr Graeme Bell**
- Cr Louise Croot MNZM**
- Cr Michael Deaker**
- Cr Gerrard Eckhoff**
- Cr Gary Kelliher**
- Cr Trevor Kempton**
- Cr Sam Neill**
- Cr Gretchen Robertson**
- Cr David Shepherd**
- Cr Stephen Woodhead**

Leave of Absence: **Cr Bryan Scott**

In attendance:

- Peter Bodeker**
- Nick Donnelly**
- Fraser McRae**
- Gavin Palmer**
- Caroline Rowe**
- Deborah Mills**
- Janet Favel**

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2015, having been circulated, were adopted on the motion of Crs Shepherd and Eckhoff.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

Item 1

2015/1215 **2015 Air Quality Results.** DEHS, 23/10/15

The annual State of the Environment (SoE) report described the air quality monitoring results for 2015 and provided a comparison with the current ambient condition as reported in the 10-year SoE report.

Ms Mills noted that the number of exceedances during the 2014-15 year was lower than average. This was partly because of lower emissions, but mainly because of the more than usually windy conditions. The El Nino event brought more frequent and stronger winds, which helped with dispersion of air pollution, showing the effect of climate.

A question was raised as to whether district councils voluntarily supported the Air Plan's $0.7\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ emission level. Ms Mills advised that district councils were encouraged to promote this level when the Air Plan became operative. She noted that the only way a person could be eligible for the Clean Heat Clean Air subsidy was by installing a $0.7\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ burner.

The anomaly which prevented councils applying more stringent emission restrictions than those in the Building Code was noted. Dr Palmer advised that the Council's Air Strategy would address that issue. Mr McRae commented that the NES was predicated on climate, not public health.

Cr Woodhead noted that Minister Nick Smith encouraged a review of NESAQ, including moving from PM_{10} to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$. He wanted the NES to be able to be included in air plans. Mr Bodeker in response to a question advised that there was provision in the LTP for the Clean Heat programme, and Councillors would have the opportunity at Annual Plan discussion time to consider whether they wanted to continue the programme, and at what level.

Cr Croot moved

Cr Kempton seconded

1. *That the report be received.*
2. *That the state of air quality in Otago be noted.*

Motion carried

Item 2
2015/1238 **Director's Report on Progress.** DEHS, 12/11/15

Topics covered in the report were: Queenstown lakes flood awareness program, Dunedin District Plan and Natural Hazards, Leith Flood Protection Scheme, and Lake Tuakitoto.

Cr Brown moved
Cr Kelliher seconded

That the report be noted.

Motion carried

The meeting closed at 12.20 pm.

Chairperson

