

DISTRICT-WIDE MATTERS

EWA – Energy, Water Use and Air Quality

The Act deals with a wide range of resources. District *Councils* are mainly concerned with land-related resources, namely soil, minerals, structures, vegetation and fauna.

Implementing measures to control discharges to air and to manage the effects of the use of energy and water is primarily a *Regional Council* responsibility. The Regional Policy Statement therefore deals with these matters, and with waste management, which is closely allied to the energy topic. (A lot of energy is used to create products which are used once then dumped). Re-use, recovery and recycling can substantially reduce overall energy demands as well as lessen demand for raw materials.

Local Councils also however have some clear duties when it comes to energy use and water and air quality issues. When putting land use controls in place or when dealing with applications to establish factories etc., *Council* must consider the impacts which land use activities could have upon energy resources, air and water.

Objectives

EWA-01	To promote sustainability of energy and water use through more efficient use, conservation and a higher degree of local self-sufficiency, as well as a move toward renewable energy sources. (Refer also: GRUZ-01, SUB-09)
EWA-02	To take Māori cultural and spiritual values into account when dealing with water and energy use matters and air quality issues. (Refer also: GEN-04, TW-01)
EWA-03	To minimise the adverse effects of water and energy use and other activities upon the environment, particularly upon the life-supporting qualities of water. (Refer also: GRUZ-01, SUB-05, SUB-09, SUB-011, ER-05, INF-01, INF-02)

EWA-O4	To help to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of activities involving discharge to air, through land use management. (Refer also: GEN-O1, GEN-O2)
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Policies

EWA-P1	To promote wider public use of techniques to conserve water and energy and help improve water and air quality.
EWA-P2	To take future energy demands into account when considering urban growth proposals.
EWA-P3	To work with the Tangata Whenua to identify the relevant cultural and spiritual values related to this topic, through early and ongoing consultation.
EWA-P4	To recognise the benefits of tree and forest planting in helping to lower atmospheric CO ₂ levels, and in improving water quality.
EWA-P5	To take potential impacts on water and air quality into account when managing the effects of new land use activities.
EWA-P6	To require that activities which may cause significant adverse effects through discharges to air are, as far as practical, located away from residential areas and other incompatible uses.