

Report on submissions and further submissions on the
Proposed Waikato District Plan

Hearing 27F: Fire, Climate Change and Definitions

Appendix 3: Cascade table

Fire

Note: Objective 15.2.1 and Policy 15.2.1.18 are relevant to the natural hazard of fire.

Fire is referred to only in subdivision rules. Rule 22.4.1.2 is given as a representative example. Para (vi) (red type) was amended by Variation 2 to include fire. Similar amendments were made to subdivision rules in other zones. The rules refer to fire only as a matter of discretion for subdivision consents. An example of the way this discretion might be exercised is that a subdivision close to plantation forestry would be assessed for fire risks, especially regarding the proximity of the building platform to the forest.

Cascade:

Objective	Policy	Rule
<p>Objective 15.2.1 - Resilience to natural hazard risk</p> <p>A resilient community where the risks from natural hazards on people, property, infrastructure and the environment from subdivision, use and development of land are avoided or appropriately mitigated.</p>	<p>Policy 15.2.1.18 Residential development and subdivision potentially subject to fire risk</p> <p>(a) In areas assessed or identified as being potentially subject to elevated fire risk, ensure that an appropriate <u>design and layout, including a buffer area or setback, is provided around for new residential subdivision and development, and the following matters are considered:</u></p> <p>(i) <u>Access for emergency service vehicles;</u></p> <p>(ii) <u>Provision of and access to emergency firefighting water supply;</u></p> <p>(iii) <u>Separation and management of vegetation (with regard to slope, aspect, management regimes; use of less flammable vegetation); and</u></p> <p>(iv) <u>The design and materials of any buildings.¹</u></p>	<p>22.4.1.2 General subdivision</p> <p>RDI</p> <p>(a) Subdivision must comply with all of the following conditions:</p> <p>(i) ...</p> <p>(v) ...</p> <p>(b) Council's discretion is restricted to the following matters:</p> <p>(i) subdivision layout and design including dimensions, shape and orientation of the proposed lot;</p> <p>(ii) effects on rural character and amenity values;</p> <p>(iii) effects on landscape values;</p> <p>(iv) potential for reverse sensitivity effects;</p> <p>(v) extent of earthworks including earthworks for the location of building platforms and accessways.;</p> <p>(vi) natural hazards risk, including liquefaction risk and fire risk (refer to Chapter 15).</p>

¹ Waikato Regional Council [2102.42], Counties Power [FS3021.8] and Fire and Emergency New Zealand [FS3025.5]

Climate change

Note: Objective 1.12.8 was added to Chapter 1 PWDP by Variation 2. The three other objectives and the policies and rules are in Chapter 15. All the climate change policies respond to all the objectives to some extent. Rules mentioning climate change all relate to the effects of climate change on natural hazards. All rules mentioning climate change do so as matters of discretion for restricted discretionary activities. Rule 15.7.2 (building in coastal sensitivity areas) is given as a representative example.

Objective	Policy	Rule
<p>1.12.8 Objective - Natural Hazards and Climate Change (a) The choice, location and design of development in the district takes into account the risks from natural hazards and potential impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Objective 15.2.1 - Resilience to natural hazard risk A resilient community where the risks from natural hazards on people, property, infrastructure and the environment from subdivision, use and development of land are avoided or appropriately mitigated.</p> <p>Objective 15.2.2 - Awareness of natural hazard risks A well-informed community that: (a) is aware of, and understands, which natural hazards affect the district; and (b) is able to effectively and efficiently respond to, and recover from, natural hazard events.</p>	<p>Policy 15.2.3.1 – Effects of climate change on new subdivision and development – (a) Ensure that adequate allowances are made for the projected effects of climate change in the design and location of new subdivision and development throughout the district, including undertaking assessments where relevant that provide for:</p> <p>(i) the projected increase in rainfall intensity, as determined by national guidance, but being in the event of a temperature rise of⁴ not less than 2.3°C by 2120;</p> <p>(ii) the projected increase in sea level, where relevant, as determined by national guidance <u>and the best available information⁵</u>, but being not less than 1m by 2120;</p> <p>(iii) in respect to new urban zoning, stress testing under the RCP 8.5 scenario for rainfall [1] and RCP 8.5H+ for sea level rise [2]; and</p>	<p>15.7.2 Restricted Discretionary Activities RDI: Construction of a new building or additions to an existing building not provided for in Rule 15.7.1 P1-P3 and not listed in Rule 15.7.3 D1.</p> <p>Discretion is restricted to: (a) The ability to manage coastal hazard risk through appropriate building materials, structural or design work, engineering solutions or other appropriate mitigation measures, including the ability to relocate the building; (b) The application of mitigation through natural features and buffers where appropriate; (c) The ability to impose time limits or triggers to determine when the building and services to be removed or relocated; (d) The degree to which coastal hazard risk, including the effects of climate change over a period to 2120, has been assessed in a site specific coastal hazard risk assessment; (e)</p>

⁴ Director General of Department of Conservation [2108.12]

⁵ Waikato Regional Council [2102.86],

Objective	Policy	Rule
<p>Objective 15.2.3 Climate Change</p> <p>A well-prepared community that:</p> <p>a) Is resilient able to adapt² to the effects of climate change; and</p> <p>b) Has transitioned to development that prioritises lower greenhouse gas emissions.³</p>	<p>(iv) in respect to the coastal environment, increases in storm surge, waves and <u>wind</u>.⁶</p> <p>Policy 15.2.3.2 - Future land use planning and climate change</p> <p>(a) Increase the ability of the community to adapt to the effects of climate change when undertaking future land use planning by:</p> <p>(i) ensuring the potential environmental and social costs of climate change, including effects on indigenous biodiversity (inland migration), historic heritage, Maaori Sites and Areas of Significance, mahinga kai, public health and safety, public access to the coast and waterway margins, and the built environment are addressed.</p> <p>(ii) encouraging the incorporation of sustainable design measures within new subdivision, landuse and development, including:</p> <p>(A) low impact, stormwater management, urban design and</p>	

² Kainga Ora Homes and Communities [2094.17]

³ Federated Farmers of New Zealand [2173.29]

⁶ Tainui Hapu Environmental Management Committee [2097.1] and Department of Conservation [2108.13]

Objective	Policy	Rule
	<p>green infrastructure;</p> <p>(B) of relocatable buildings and structures in areas potentially at risk due to sea level rise or increased flood levels;</p> <p>(C) efficient water storage;</p> <p>(D) provision of renewable energy generation; and</p> <p>(E) transferring to activities with lower greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>(iii) providing ongoing monitoring of changes to the environment due to climate change; and</p> <p>(iv) facilitating community discussion on adaptive pathways to manage the risks associated with climate change and incorporating them, where appropriate, into the district plan through plan changes.</p> <p>Policy 15.2.3.3 Precautionary approach for dealing with uncertainty</p> <p>(a) In areas throughout the district likely to be affected by climate change over the next 100 years, adopt a precautionary approach</p>	

Objective	Policy	Rule
	<p>towards new subdivision, use and development which may have potentially significant or irreversible adverse effects, but for which there is incomplete or uncertain information.</p> <p>Policy 15.2.3.4 - Provide sufficient setbacks for new development</p> <p>(a) Protect people, property and the environment from the projected adverse effects of climate change, including sea level rise, by providing sufficient setbacks from water bodies and the coast when assessing new development.</p> <p>(b) Ensure that, in establishing development setbacks, adequate consideration is given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the protection of natural ecosystems, including opportunities for the inland migration of coastal habitats; (ii) the vulnerability of the community; (iii) the maintenance and enhancement of public access to the coast and public open space; (iv) the requirements of infrastructure; and (v) natural hazard mitigation provision, including the protection of natural defences.” <p>Policy 15.2.3.5 - Assess the impact of climate change on the level of natural hazard risks.</p> <p>(a) For all new subdivision, use and development requiring</p>	

Objective	Policy	Rule
	<p>rezoning or a resource consent, ensure that account is taken of the projected effects of climate change over the next 100 years when assessing any identified risks from natural hazards, and their effects on people, property, infrastructure and the environment.</p> <p>(b) Ensure that, when assessing the effects of climate change on the level of natural hazard risk in accordance with Policy 15.2.3.5(a) above, the allowances in Policy 15.2.3.1(a)(i)-(iv) are applied.</p> <p>(c) Where the assessment required by Policy 15.2.3.5(a) and Policy 15.2.3.5(b) indicates that natural hazards are likely to be exacerbated by climate change, ensure that subdivision and development are designed and located so that any increased and cumulative risk from natural hazards is managed to acceptable levels and any intolerable risks are avoided or reduced to tolerable or acceptable levels to avoid, or appropriately mitigate, any increased and cumulative risk, including increased risk of flooding, liquefaction, coastal inundation, coastal erosion, slope instability, fire, and drought.⁷</p>	

⁷ Waikato Regional Council [2102.91], Counties Power [FS3021.9] and Mercury NZ Limited [FS3034.153],

Objective	Policy	Rule
<p>Objective 15.2.2 - Awareness of natural hazard risks A well-informed community that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is aware of, and understands, which natural hazards affect the district; and (b) is able to effectively and efficiently respond to, and recover from, natural hazard events 		
<p>Objective 15.2.3 Climate Change A well-prepared community that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Is resilient able to adapt⁸ to the effects of climate change; and b) Has transitioned to development that prioritises lower greenhouse gas emissions.⁹ 		

⁸ Kainga Ora Homes and Communities [2094.17]

⁹ Federated Farmers of New Zealand [2173.29]