

## Decision of the Southland Regional Council

### Resource consent application

#### Section 104B and Section 113 of the Resource Management Act 1991

<b>Applicant:</b>	Alliance Group Limited
<b>RM reference:</b>	AUTH-20202357
<b>Location:</b>	18-30 McQueen Avenue, Maitaura and 50 Selbourne Street, Maitaura
<b>Legal description:</b>	Lots 1 & 2 DP 12431, Lot 1 DP 12500, Sections 1-3 Block VII TN OF Maitaura, Part Section 4 Block VII TN OF Maitaura, Lot 1 DP 5255, Lots 3-7 DP 5255, Part Sections 6 & 7 Block VII TN OF Maitaura, Lot 1 DP 8137, Lots 1 & 2 DP 9633, Section 10 Block VII TN OF Maitaura, Part Section 28 Block XIII TN OF Maitaura
<b>Decision date:</b>	29 July 2021
<b>Expiry date:</b>	18 August 2046
<b>Class of activity (ies)</b>	Discretionary
<b>Activities authorised:</b>	To discharge combustion contaminants and odour to air from meat processing and hide salting operations)
<b>Rule:</b>	Rule 5.5.2 of the Regional Air Plan

### 1. Decision

Resource consent is **granted** under delegated authority.

### 2. Reasons for the decision

I have reviewed the application, the technical review report, the submissions and the consent officer's s42A report. I agree with the consent officer's report and accept the recommendation to approve the application with the proposed consent conditions.

The applicant is proposing significant upgrades to reduce emissions of combustion contaminants, and to mitigate odour effects. I note that fine particulate concentrations have the potential to adversely affect human health, and that peak cumulative levels are expected to approach PM<sub>10</sub> standards and exceed PM<sub>2.5</sub> guidelines. The applicant's operation is not the only source of airborne particulates within Mataura township, but it is an important contributor to levels in the vicinity of the plant. The proposed upgrades will reduce cumulative concentrations in ambient air to levels that comply with guidelines.

The applicant will either use a baghouse filter or change to a biomass-fueled boiler to achieve the expected contaminant emission reduction, and that this is to occur within 3 years. I have had regard to the applicant's reasoning for the 3-year period and consider that it is a practical timeframe for the upgrade. Compliance with that timeframe is important given the potential health effects of inhalable particulates. I note that the applicant has also committed to ceasing the use of coal in its main and back-up boilers within 5 years. Whether or not that requires some interim mitigation step before switching away from coal by the fifth year, the applicant must meet the emission standards within three years.

A series of mitigations are proposed to reduce odour effects beyond the boundary of the applicant's property. These are to be implemented within 12 months and will be followed by odour diary monitoring, and by a review by a suitably qualified person to ensure that the mitigations have been effective in managing odour effects.

In deciding to approve the application I have taken particular note of the high number of submissions supporting the application, and that the applicant has reached agreement with the submitters that initially opposed it. I understand that the reduced consent period and switch away from the use of coal helped address the concerns of the submitters. I also recognise that this is a long-term industry that is important to the local economy and community, and that there is significant investment in both the existing plant and in the proposed upgrades.

I consider that approving this application, subject to the proposed conditions, is consistent with the purpose of the Resource Management Act. I have had regard to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Air Quality) Regulations 2004, the Regional Policy Statement, the Regional Air Plan and Te Tangi a Taurira. I acknowledge that s104E of the Resource Management Act prevents current consideration of the effects of the discharge on climate change.

For the **Southland Regional Council**



Bruce Halligan  
**Acting Consents Manager**

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## Notes

1. Right to object: Applicants and consent holders have the right to object to any part of this decision to Environment Southland. Objections must be in writing and received by Environment Southland within 15 working days of the decision being notified. Objectors can request the objection be heard by an independent commissioner. The procedure for making and hearing objections is set out in sections 357A to 357D of the Resource Management Act 1991.
2. Right to appeal: The applicant, the consent holder (if different), and any person who made a submission on the application may appeal against any part of this decision (including the consent conditions conditions) to the Environment Court. A submitter's appeal is limited in scope by the matters raised in their submission. Appellants have 15 working days to lodge an appeal, from the date they received notice of this decision. The right to appeal and procedure for lodging appeals is outlined in sections 120 and 121 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
3. Our costs: An invoice for our costs of working on the application will be forwarded to the applicant shortly.
4. Expiry of consent: Please note the expiry date of the resource consent. The expiry date will be printed in on the first page of the consent. The activity can only legally occur between now and the expiry date. If the consent holder wishes to continue with the activity after the consent expires, they will need to apply for and obtain a new resource consent in advance. We recommend that such applications are made at least six months before any current consent will expire.
5. Lapse of consent: Please note that the resource consent(s) will lapse if not 'given effect' to it within five years of it being granted (or otherwise within a different period specified on the particular consent). Lapse of a consent has the same effect as an expiry. The consent will not lapse if the activity is commenced within five years. A longer lapse period can be applied for. The consent holder is advised to contact us in advance if it may not give effect to the consent before it lapses.
6. Cancellation of consent: Resource consents can be cancelled if they are unexercised for a period of five years. Cancellation of a consent has the same effect as an expiry.