

The Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan (notified 30 September 2013)

4.7 Biosolids

Introduction

These rules should be read in conjunction with the Guidelines for the Safe Application of Biosolids to Land in New Zealand, August (2003). The grading system used in these provisions is adopted from 4.3 of the Guidelines for the Safe Application of Biosolids to Land in New Zealand, August (2003).

1. Activity table

[rp]

Activity	All zones
The application onto or into land of Grade Aa biosolids	P
The application onto or into land of Grade Aa biosolids not meeting the permitted activity controls	RD
The application onto or into land of Grade Ab, Ba and Bb biosolids	RD
The application onto or into land of Grade Ab, Ba and Bb biosolids not meeting the restricted discretionary activity controls	D
Any application of biosolids which is not otherwise listed	D
The direct discharge of biosolids to water	Pr

2. Controls

2.1 Permitted activities

1. There must not be any direct application or runoff into any water body or the coastal marine area.
2. The application must not be to land used for food production or residential activities.
3. The Aa Grade biosolids, after blending with other matter, must meet the requirements in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 of the Guidelines for the Safe Application of Biosolids to Land in New Zealand (August 2003), including the soil limit concentrations and the requirement to obtain quality assurance.
4. The application must not be to any Water Supply Management Area(s).
5. The biosolids must be stored and handled to avoid groundwater or surface water contamination.
6. The biosolids application must not occur at any site or place of significance to Man Whenua.
7. The application must provide for buffer zones between the application area and neighbouring land uses or sensitive environments as follows:
 - a. 20m from any property boundary
 - b. 20m from any surface water body and the coastal marine area
 - c. 20m from any water supply bore
 - d. 20m from a significant geothermal feature.
8. The application must not result in any offensive or objectionable odour or dust beyond the property boundary on which the biosolids are applied.
9. The applier must keep the following records and make these records available to council upon request:
 - a. The nature of the biosolids including dry solids content, application, volume, location and frequency
 - b. The total nitrogen mass-load applied per hectare per annum.

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2.2 Restricted discretionary activities

1. The application onto or into land of Grade Ab, Ba and Bb biosolids
 - a. Must comply with all permitted activity controls; and
 - b. After any blending with other matter, must meet the requirements in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 of the Guidelines for the Safe Application of Biosolids to Land in New Zealand, August (2003) including the soil limit concentrations and the requirement to obtain accredited quality assurance.
2. The application onto or into land of Grade Aa biosolids that do not meet the permitted activity controls:
 - a. Resource consent applications for the application onto land of Grade Aa biosolids not meeting the permitted activity controls must address the potential effects of not meeting the permitted activity controls, and how any such effects will be avoided or mitigated.

3. Assessment - Restricted discretionary activities

3.1 Matters of discretion

1. The council will restrict its discretion to the matters below for restricted discretionary activities:
 - a. the rate and frequency of application to control nutrient and contaminant loading rates
 - b. the type of blending material
 - c. risk to the environment - land, air and surface and ground water resources - or to human or stock health in terms of concentrations of nutrients, heavy metals, pathogens and synthetic organic chemicals
 - d. the effects on
 - i. scheduled sites or places of significance to Mana Whenua
 - ii. Water Supply Management Areas, Wetland Management Areas, Natural Stream Management Areas, Natural Lake Management Areas, High Use Stream or Aquifer Management Areas.
 - e. the effects of odour and dust beyond the application site boundary
 - f. contingency measures in the event of mechanical failure or prolonged wet weather
 - g. monitoring and information requirements
 - h. compliance monitoring.

3.2 Assessment criteria

The council will consider the relevant assessment criteria below for restricted discretionary activities.

1. Whether the proposed application of biosolids demonstrates that:
 - a. it will not result in significant adverse effects on surface and groundwater quality and does not pose a threat to public health in terms of concentrations of nutrients, heavy metals, pathogens and synthetic organic chemicals
 - b. it does not adversely affect a scheduled site or place of significance to Mana Whenua
 - c. it does not result in more than minor adverse effects to a Water Supply Management Area, Wetland Management Area, Natural Stream Management Area, Natural Lake Management Area, High Use Stream or Aquifer Management Area
 - d. there is no offensive or objectionable odour or dust beyond the boundary of the property on which the biosolids are applied.

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