



# THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

**MEDIA RELEASE – 12 January 2024**

## **WCRC - Taylorville Resource Park Limited**

In a move to ensure impartiality and comprehensive expertise, the West Coast Regional Council (WCRC) announced today that it has transferred the investigation into potential contaminant discharges from the Taylorville Resource Park landfill near Greymouth to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We have handed over our comprehensive investigation to date to the EPA, so they are not starting at the beginning. This ensures seamless continuity and maximizes efficiency in uncovering the facts and addressing any potential environmental concerns.

Concerns were raised regarding potential air and water quality impacts surrounding the landfill operation, prompting the WCRC to initiate initial inquiries. However, to guarantee an independent and thorough investigation, the Council has deemed it necessary to involve the EPA.

"While the WCRC has the responsibility to investigate potential environmental breaches within our region, this specific case calls for an agency with broader jurisdiction and resources," explained Darryl Lew, CEO at the WCRC. "By involving the EPA, we're demonstrating our commitment to transparency and eliminating any potential perception of bias."

The EPA will now assume the lead in investigating potential breaches of the Resource Management Act (RMA) and other relevant environmental legislation. This includes assessing potential air and water contamination, identifying the source of any issues, and taking appropriate enforcement action if necessary.

"The EPA is well-equipped to handle complex environmental investigations with its nationwide perspective and specialized expertise," stated Jackie Adams at the EPA. "We will conduct a rigorous and unbiased investigation, and the community will be kept informed of our findings every step of the way."

The WCRC will continue to collaborate with the EPA, providing relevant information and data during the investigation. The Council remains dedicated to protecting the environment and upholding environmental regulations in a fair and impartial manner.

ENDS

---

Media contact

Darryl Lew | Chief Executive | West Coast Regional Council | 027 217 9306