

Before the Selwyn District Council

under: the Resource Management Act 1991

in the matter of: Proposed Private Plan Changes 81 and 82 to the
Operative District Plan: Dunns Crossing Road, Rolleston

and: **Rolleston Industrial Developments Limited** and
Brookside Road Residential Limited
Applicant

Summary of Evidence of John Iseli (Odour)

Dated: 12 September 2022

Reference: JM Appleyard (jo.appleyard@chapmantripp.com)
LMN Forrester (lucy.forrester@chapmantripp.com)

chapmantripp.com
T +64 4 499 5999
F +64 4 472 7111

PO Box 993
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

Auckland
Wellington
Christchurch



SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF JOHN ISELI

- 1 My full name is John Graham Iseli. I have been an Air Quality Scientist with Specialist Environmental Services Limited for the past 23 years.
- 2 I have previously undertaken an assessment of effects of discharges to air from the PRRP composting operation that took into account site specific factors. I prepared the odour assessment of effects on behalf of Selwyn District Council when it consented its air discharges from the PRRP.¹
- 3 I have also reviewed Mr Van Kekem's evidence and considered the odour survey and odour scout monitoring results now available. In summary, I agree with Mr Van Kekem's conclusions regarding the extent of predicted odour effects from the PRRP and note that they are consistent with my earlier assessment of effects.
- 4 Caution should be used when applying separation distance guidance in isolation, without considering a site specific assessment for odour sources such as the PRRP. A wide range of setback distances for composting are specified by various jurisdictions. In the New Zealand context, such guidance is typically used as a screening tool to indicate where site specific assessment may be appropriate. Mr Van Kekem's evidence regarding the observed extent of the odour plume (up to approximately 400m from the source) is generally consistent with my experience of well-operated composting operations with comparable feedstock material to that processed at the PRRP. This distance is substantially less than indicated by Victorian EPA guidance that specifies very conservative setbacks of up to 2000m in relation to composting of greenwaste material.
- 5 I consider that the odour scout observations relating to the PRRP site and also other well operated windrow composting plants in New Zealand adds to the body of evidence supporting the conclusion that adverse odour effects are unlikely to occur beyond 600m from the active windrows. The active windrows are the primary source of odour from the site. Consent conditions and the ODMP prevent turning of windrows under wind conditions when odour may affect PC82 land. Given these controls and the relatively small frequency of winds from the west to northwest (blowing from the site towards PC82), it is my opinion that residential development more than 600m from the composting site is not likely to result in reverse sensitivity effects.

¹ Specialist Environmental Services Limited, 2018. Assessment of Effects of Discharges to Air – SDC Pines Resource Recovery Park Composting Operation. 19 July, 2018.

- 6 Concern has been raised that “upset conditions”, such as windrows becoming anaerobic, could result in odour effects beyond 600m from the plant. I consider that such upset conditions are not likely to occur in this case, given the detailed ODMP in place and the conditions of consent. The complaints record relating to the existing operation supports that view. Such upset conditions would result in a breach of the conditions of consent. I am not aware of any evidence that the PRRP is (or has been) non-compliant with the “no offensive or objectionable odour beyond the site boundary” condition.

Dated: 12 September 2022

John Iseli