



MEDIA RELEASE
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ENERGY FROM WASTE PLANT APPLICATION TO PROCEED THROUGH COUNCIL PROCESS

South Island Resource Recovery Limited (SIRRL), the joint venture company proposing to build an Energy-from-Waste plant at Glenavy in South Canterbury, known as Project Kea, will now have its Resource Management Act (RMA) application processed by Environment Canterbury (ECan) and the Waimate District Council (WDC).

An independent Commissioner has ruled that the resource consent application is to be accepted for processing.

“We’re thrilled with this decision which now allows the application to move forward through processing while we continue to wait on a Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) from manawhenua,” SIRRL Director Paul Taylor said.

“SIRRL have always treated a CIA to be an important document to be considered as part of the processing of the application, and we look forward to receiving the CIA from manawhenua so that it may be considered as part of the consent evaluation process.

“From the beginning SIRRL has requested public notification of the resource consent application, supporting public participation in the consenting process to ensure that community views and concerns are heard and appropriately addressed.

“Project Kea is a very important consent application to help deal with the South Island’s huge waste problem, and we’re encouraging the wider community to learn about, ask questions and have their say.

“We’re mindful that Project Kea could be Aotearoa’s first Energy from Waste plant and SIRRL has reached out to the local community to provide online resources and public engagement forums for questions and discussion. SIRRL has also commissioned a number of independent expert reports that provide assessment on Human Health; Air Quality; Waste Acceptance Criteria; Flood Risk; Visual Design; Transport Movements; Noise levels; Life Cycle (global warming potential of the plant when compared to alternative landfill); and the project’s expected regional economic benefits.

“While we appreciate that not all people are supportive of the proposal, the fact remains that our country continues to face an increasing waste crisis. We are very pleased that the application can now proceed to public submission stage and is given due consideration by the councils’ own appointed experts,” Paul Taylor said.

For more information: www.projectkea.co.nz