



1 Washdyke Creek crossing under construction 2 Domestic Pump Station and pipework 3 Tunelling Richardson St Tunnel

## Timaru's District Wide Sewer Strategy

**Project Location:** Timaru

**CH2M Beca for Timaru District Council**

**Disciplines:** Civil, Electrical, Process, Structural, Geotechnical, Wastewater



In 1997, Timaru District Council (TDC) embarked on a strategy to upgrade its sewer system and wastewater treatment plants in the north eastern part of the district. The strategy recognised the need to cease discharges to inland waterways and the Opihi River and its tributaries, rising standards for ocean discharges, and the need to upgrade or replace existing ageing and under-capacity pump stations and trunk sewer pipelines.

TDC adopted an approach involving wide community and stakeholder engagement and consultation through a working party structure. The working party involved an independent facilitator, a wide range of stakeholder and community representatives, TDC staff, and support from specialist advisors including Beca. The recommendations arising as a result of the Working Party work included eliminating discharges to river from the inland towns by piping treated wastewater to the existing ocean outfall, replacing a network of pump stations and trunk sewers with gravity sewers, including separating domestic and industrial flows, and upgrading the existing WWTP for treatment of the domestic wastewater stream.

Beca carried out all the necessary technical work to implement the adopted strategy over a period of approximately 15 years, including preparing Assessment of Environmental Effects for separate sets of resource consents for diversion of inland town effluent to the ocean outfall, continued use of the ocean outfall itself, and construction of the WWTP upgrade. Minor consents for various construction activities during strategy implementation were also required.

The overall Wastewater Strategy from 1997 to 2014 involved an expenditure of \$60.7 million. The last phase of the strategy, the Aorangi Road Domestic WWTP (\$19.1 million), was completed in January 2015 and is meeting its consent requirements.

### Judging & Copyright Statement

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