

Meagan Walters

From: District Plan Review
Sent: Monday, 30 June 2025 11:37 am
To: Mary Wilson
Subject: RE: Submission re the Kaipara District Plan

Kia ora Mary

Thank you for your submission. Please accept this email as confirmation that we have received your submission.

We will be in touch again in due course once all submissions have been summarised.

Ngā mihi
Meagan










Meagan Walters | Planning Administrator

Kaipara District Council, Private Bag 1001, Dargaville 0340

Freephone: 0800 727 059 | 09 439 3123 | 021 392 218

mwalters@kaipara.govt.nz | council@kaipara.govt.nz | www.kaipara.govt.nz

In the Office = 		Working from home = 		
Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday
				

From: Mary Wilson <mtierneywilson@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Sunday, 29 June 2025 8:04 am
To: District Plan Review <districtplanreview@kaipara.govt.nz>
Subject: Submission re the Kaipara District Plan

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Submission to:

KDC Proposed District Plan

Kaipara District Council

Private Bag 1001, Dargaville 0340

Northland

Submission by:
Mary Wilson

Contact details:

Postal: 25 Karoro Road One Tree Point

[Tel:09 433 0379](tel:094330379)

Email: mtierneywilson@xtra.co.nz

I do not wish to be heard.

Trade Competition question:

I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to the KDC Proposed District Plan.

A lot of work has gone into your Proposed plan on other issues but there is a serious omission- the valuable GE/GMO provisions, policies, and rules that were in the KDC Draft District Plan / Exposure Draft Plan 2022.

These provisions were wisely proposed by KDC full council in keeping with the wishes of local ratepayers and the findings of the Northland/ Auckland ICWP on GMOs).

As you know, there was huge support for these excellent GE/GMO provisions/ wording in submissions lodged at that time.

I share the concerns of my Kaipara colleagues and whanau about the strange omission of these valuable GE/GMO provisions in the current KDC Proposed District Plan.

The plan as notified is strangely silent on the issues of genetic modification, given its importance for our biosecurity, economy, and food sovereignty and clear direction from the Northland operative Plans.

As Northland Regional Council has pointed out (in its submission to the KDC Proposed District Plan) "the Northland RPS and Northland Regional Plan (via Policy 6.1.2) directs a precautionary approach to GE/GMO use where the effects are scientifically uncertain, unknown, or little understood but potentially significant. "

I urge the Kaipara Council to include the precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMO provisions as it has done previously in its KDC Draft District Plan

This is especially important as KDC has had a strong precautionary GE/GMO policy in its various operative Long Term Council Community Plans (recognising the concerns of farmers and other ratepayers/ Iwi/hapu) and KDC has worked in a collaborative and fiscally responsible manner in the Northland/ Auckland "Inter Council Working Party on GMO Risk Evaluation & Management Options".

KDC needs to act in keeping with the findings of the Northland/ Auckland ICWP on GMO, and what has already been achieved by the NRC, WDC, FNDC, and Auckland Council. I note that

WDC and FNDC have the same precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMO provisions in their operative District Plans.

Protecting Northland and the Kaipara's valuable GE Free status is essential for our biosecurity wider environment, existing GM free farmers/ primary producers, and our valuable "Northland,naturally" brand. Kaipara District is also adjacent to Auckland region, where there are strong precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMO provisions, policies and rules (on both land and in the Coastal Marine Area) in the operative Auckland Unitary Plan.

I wish to emphasize this fact as any weakening of Kaipara's GE/GMO stance or provisions would result in significant risks not only to Kaipara but wider Northland and Auckland regions.

I live in the Whangarei District- your neighbors. We urge KDC to reinstate the GE/GMO provisions and act (along with your neighboring councils) to create a much needed additional tier of local protection against the risks of outdoor GE/GMOs.

This is not just about risks (harm caused by outdoor GE/GMOs are likely to be irreversible). I share the major concerns of other Northlanders about the documented harm caused by GE/GMO experiments, field trials and releases in North America. To ignore robust evidence of widespread GE/GMO contamination overseas and other harms, is counter productive and dangerous.

To date the gene edited rye grass controversial out door experiments/ field tests undertaken for nearly 4 years in the USA failed to produce any useful results.

Based on these poor results NZ CRI AgResearch and Grasslands Technology Australia did not proceed to field trial GE rye grass in Australia.

<https://newsroom.co.nz/2023/07/03/grass-isnt-greener-for-gm-trial-in-australia/>

Grasses are hugely promiscuous- we do not want an overseas multinational, private company or NZ CRI experimenting with GE or gene edited grasses here. Pollen, seeds, vegetative material, animals, soils, waterways, insects, machinery, extreme weather events- these are all known vectors for GE/GMO contamination.

There are safe and known non GM methods for reducing methane / addressing climate change, which include feeding a small % of seaweed to cattle, and mixed forage species.

Precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMO provisions in local plans are needed more than ever for the survival and safety of our biosecurity, ecology, environment, economy, hard working farmers, food sovereignty, and welfare.

Council (KDC) must act on its obligations to its neighboring councils, sustainable management of natural and physical resource, and the direction in the Northland RPS and Regional Plan.

Relief sought: Include precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMO provisions in the KDC district plan consistent with the RPS direction on Genetically Modified Organisms, existing case law, and the findings of the Northland/ Auckland ICWP on GMOs.

**Thank you, please keep me informed.
Mary Wilson**

One Tree Point

NZRN (retired) BA Sociology Massey