



## **STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Report of the Lifelines Steering Committee meeting, held at the office of Matamata-Piako District Council, 35 Kenrick Street, Te Aroha at 9.30 am on Friday, 19 October 2007

### **MEMBERS:**

**WEL Networks**  
Alan Harrop  
**South Waikato District Council**  
Alex Shaw / Barrie Herlihy  
**Matamata Piako District Council**  
George Ridley  
**Waipa District Council**  
John Mills  
**Emergency Management Office (Environment Waikato)**  
Adam Munro  
**Transit NZ**  
Kaye Clark  
**Genesis Energy**  
Bill Ashurst  
**Ministry of CDEM (Emergency Management Planner)**  
Greg Gallop / Suzanne Vowles  
**Vodafone NZ Ltd**  
Graham Mearns

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

John Harris (Engineering Lifelines Project Manager)	
Rob Korenhof	Taupo District Council
Jason Stapp	Contact Energy
Bevan Bettridge	Telecom
Neville Boag	Matamata-Piako DC
Dennis Crequer	Environment Waikato
Chian Ho	Powerco
Sharon Robinson	South Waikato DC
John Mackenzie	Transpower

### **APOLOGIES**

Bill Ashurst	Genesis Energy
Barrie Herlihy	South Waikato DC
Roger Fisher	South Waikato DC
Andy Leggett	Telecom
Bob Coombes	Transpower
Suzanne Vowles	MCDEM
Kaye Clark	Transit NZ

### **PRESENT**

Alan Harrop, Alex Shaw, John Mills, Adam Munro, George Ridley

### **Apologies**

(Agenda Item 1)

As recorded on page 1

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the apologies be accepted

### **Late items for General Business**

(Agenda Item 2)

Meeting frequency  
Lifelines Co-ordination

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

(Agenda Item 3)

Taken as read

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the minutes of the Steering Group Meeting on Friday 27 July 2007 be received and adopted as a true and correct record.

A. Harrop / A. Shaw  
Carried

### **Correspondence**

(Agenda Item 4)

#### **Inwards**

- Dept. of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – National Hazardscape Report
- MAF – Climate Change Meetings (email)
- Peter Urich – CLIMFACTS
- Dean Burwell – resignation as he is leaving Hauraki DC (email)
- Graham Mearns – resignation from WELG Steering Committee (email)
- Communications Plan – update information

#### **Outward**

- Information for Hamilton CC Emergency Management Awareness Day
- Dennis Crequer re WELG meeting presentation
- Graham Mearns re resignation (email)
- Updates for Utility Vulnerability Project (email)

A. Shaw / G. Ridley  
Carried

### **Project Manager's Report**

(Agenda item 5)

John Harris presented the Project Manager's Report.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the report titled "Project Manager's Report" be received for information

A. Munro / Alan Harrop  
Carried

## **Key Project Updates**

(Agenda Item 6)

John Harris presented the report titled "**Key Project Updates**"

There was general discussion on the Utility Vulnerability Assessment & Prioritisation Project, especially as to where from here. It was agreed to leave the completion date open but to encourage those that have not completed their assessments that there are significant advantages in having the information in house and collectively with other utilities:

- A tool for forward planning and programming,
- Institutional knowledge being available regardless of staff changes,
- "At a glance" information for CDEM Groups, especially response phase of an emergency event,
- Identification of interdependencies with other utilities, and
- Possible alternative funding streams for mitigation works.

### **Action Point:**

That the Project Manager to contact Lisa Roberts, AELG Project Manager, to enquire as to whether she would be interested in giving a presentation to the WELG on the AELG "Hot Spots" project.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) That the report titled "**Key Project Updates**" be received for information.

Al. Shaw / A. Munro  
Carried

## **Committee Members Updates**

(Agenda item 7)

There was general discussion on various issues, one being river degradation causing problems with utility pipes that are in close proximity of waterways.

There have been reported instances of computer hackers infiltrating lifeline utility control systems and causing significant damage and is a reminder that this is a specific vulnerability for all utilities that rely on computers and electronic monitoring, especially for electricity and water supplies.

There was brief discussion on the train derailment near Huntly that has blocked both the main trunk line and SH1 and how this demonstrates the types of vulnerabilities and how one utility can impact on another.

## **Avian Flu Pandemic**

(Agenda item 8)

John Harris presented the report titled "**Avian Flu Pandemic**".

### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the report titled "**Avian Flu Pandemic**" be received for information.

B. Bettridge / A. Munro  
Carried

## **Climatic Change**

(Agenda item 9)

John Harris presented the report titled "**Climatic Change**".

There was general discussion on the Climate Change model and that the brief be sent to interested parties. The issue of the CLIMPACTS model arose and it was agreed for the WELG to purchase the software.

### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the report titled "**Climatic Change**" be received for information.
- (2) That the brief for the Regional Climate Change Model be accepted and forwarded to appropriate scientific companies.
- (3) That the CLIMPACTS software be purchased by WELG

A. Shaw / Alan Harrop  
Carried

## **Draft Regional Flood Risk Management Strategy**

(Agenda Item 10)

Adam Munro presented a verbal report on the Draft Regional Flood Risk Management Strategy which is currently out for consultation.

## **IPENZ / NZPI Climate Change Seminar Overview**

(Agenda Item 11)

Adam Munro presented a verbal report on his attendance at the seminar.

## **Business Plan**

(Agenda Item 12)

The Final document was presented at the meeting and it was agreed that it be formally adopted.

### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the WELG Business Plan as presented at the meeting be adopted subject to the current date be added to Appendix A

Alan Harrop / A. Shaw  
Carried

## **General Business**

(Agenda Item 13)

**Meeting Frequency** – The current requirement is for at least three monthly but, after discussion around the table, it was agreed to reduce the number of meetings per year to three (4 monthly meetings).

**Lifelines Co-ordination** – The subject was raised as part of general information from the National Lifelines Forum. It was outlined that Auckland and Manawatu had Lifelines Coordinators but it was reconfirmed that the Waikato Engineering Lifelines Group would continue to be involved in the 2 R's only but that a protocol for emergency communications with individual utilities should be prepared so that any person in the CDEM Group, during an emergency event, is able to contact the appropriate personnel.

### **Next Meeting**

(Agenda Item 14)

The next ordinary meeting of the Lifelines Steering Committee will be at 9.30am Friday 8 February 2008, venue to be determined. Please forward any agenda items to Adam Munro or John Harris.

Meeting closed at about 11.30 pm.

If you are interested in hosting a WELG meeting please contact John Harris.

### **Tui Mine Tailings**

(Agenda item 15)

Dennis Crequer (environment Waikato) gave an extremely interesting on site presentation, at the Tui Mine tailings on Mount Te Aroha, on the history of the site, its problems and proposed remedial works. While not directly related to lifelines, the site has the potential for significant adverse effects on utilities, especially water supplies and roading.

### **Future Meeting Dates**

Friday 8 February 2008

Friday 16 May 2008

Friday 6 June 2008 – Possible date for the Breakfast Seminar

Friday 1 August 2008 – AGM plus normal meeting

# Report to Lifelines Group Steering Committee

**Date:** 30 September 2007  
**To:** Steering Committee Members  
**From:** Lifelines Project Manager  
**Subject:** Project Manager's Report

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## Purpose

To report on the Project Manager's activities since the previous meeting on 27 July 2007.

## Time Involvement in WELG

Total hours worked in July 2007	59.51
Total hours worked in August 2007	8.25
Total hours worked in September 2007	20.00

## Activities

- Working on the Vulnerability Assessment & Prioritisation Project.
- General Administration and keeping up to date with lifeline related information.
- General correspondence relating to the Waikato Engineering Lifelines Group
- Preparation of newsletter
- Preparation of Steering Committee Meeting minutes.
- Preparation of agenda and reports for the July and October Meetings.
- Preparations for invoicing for the 2007/2008 financial year.

## Project Manager Expenditure:

An expenditure spreadsheet outlining 2007/2008 expenditure to date will be presented at the meeting.

## Recommendation:

- (1) That the report titled "**Project Manager's Report**" be received for information.

John Harris  
Lifelines Project Manager

# Report to Lifelines Group Steering Committee

**Date:** 28 September 2007  
**To:** Steering Committee Members  
**From:** Lifelines Project Manager  
**Subject:** Key Projects Updates

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## **Purpose**

To report on the status of the Lifelines Group projects, Communications Plan, Utility Vulnerability Assessment Project, Business Plan and Climate Change Model.

## **Communications Plan**

Copies are available from the WELG Project Manager. If further copies are required please contact the Project Manager.

Please remember to notify the WELG Project Manager if you are aware of any changes to contact personnel.

## **Utility Vulnerability Assessment & Prioritisation Project**

The Project progress is very slow and a detailed report will be circulated separately.

## **Business Plan**

The Business Plan has been amended to improve its overall format and the mission statement reduced to "To reduce the vulnerability of Waikato Region's Lifeline Utilities in local, regional and national emergency events". The document will be circulated with the intention of signing it off at the October meeting.

## **Climate Change Model**

A brief has been prepared for expressions of interest by companies involved in climate change modelling. The brief involves both a Hauraki Plains scenario and a Waikato regional scenario and for the interested parties to advise on the practicality and costs of the two scenarios. The scope is to provide an indication of the potential impacts of climate change on the infrastructure (lifeline utilities) of the Plains/Region as well as to provide an indication of other potential funding sources for either of the two scenarios.

## **Recommendation:**

- (1) That the report titled "Key Project Updates" be received for information.

John Harris  
Lifelines Project Manager

# Report to Lifelines Group Steering Committee

**Date:** 30 September 2007  
**To:** Steering Committee Members  
**From:** Lifelines Project Manager  
**Subject:** Avian Flu Pandemic

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## Purpose

To provide a general update on the H5N1 avian flu pandemic

## General

Little information has been received on the pandemic since Exercise Cruikshank but deaths continue to be reported around the world and in an increasing number of countries. This is one of the main concerns of this type of event as public interest wanes and can lead to a drop in preparedness through complacency. The challenge facing utilities is to maintain an appropriate level of awareness and acceptance by staff, i.e. "keep the pot simmering quietly without blowing its lid".

Refer to pages 7 & 8 for world maps, indicating reported cases of Avian Flu since 2003 and reported cases since 1 January 2007. The maps indicate that it continues to spread slowly across the world with little sign of dissipating. In terms of potential impact on New Zealand, the concern is the high incidence in South East Asian countries, especially Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and, although to a lesser extent, Cambodia as they are popular tourist destinations close to both Australia and New Zealand.

For further information on Avian Flu Pandemic planning refer to website [www.moh.govt.nz/pandemicinfluenza](http://www.moh.govt.nz/pandemicinfluenza) or call 0800 286 358.

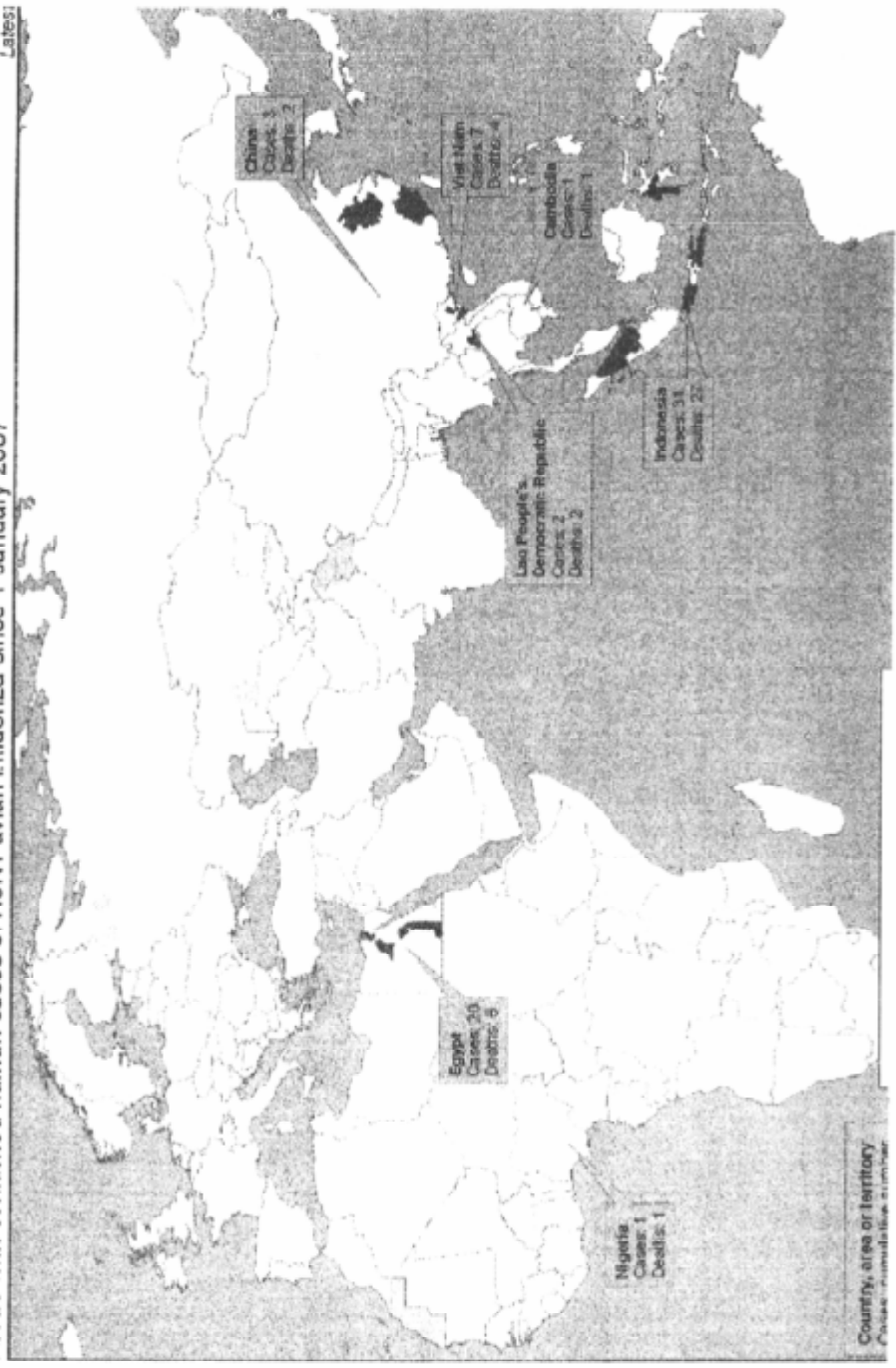
## Recommendation

- (1) That the report titled "Avian Flu Pandemic" be received for information.

John Harris  
Lifelines Project Manager

Areas with confirmed human cases of H5N1 avian influenza since 1 January 2007 \*

Status as of  
Latest:



[http://www.who.int/influenza/diseases/avian/influenza/H5N1/Human\\_2007/H5N1\\_20070101A.png](http://www.who.int/influenza/diseases/avian/influenza/H5N1/Human_2007/H5N1_20070101A.png)

7/10/2007



# Report to Lifelines Group Steering Committee

**Date:** 30 September 2007  
**To:** Steering Committee Members  
**From:** Lifelines Project Manager  
**Subject:** Climate Change

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## Purpose

To provide an update on issues and activities related to climate change.

## General

It is difficult not to hear the words climate change in today's world and it is certainly appearing centre stage in terms of central government. It would be reasonable to assume that this interest will extend to lifeline utilities, especially when the Government's policies to fight climate change include:

- The establishment of an emissions trading scheme to put a price on greenhouse gas pollution
- Measures to encourage forestry and more sustainable land use
- A goal to increase renewable electricity generation to ninety per cent of New Zealand's total electricity generation by 2025
- Improving fuel and energy efficiency in buildings, home and business
- A goal to reduce per capita emissions from the transport sector by half by 2040, and to be one of the first nations to widely introduce electric vehicles
- Making the public sector carbon neutral

All of these policies have an impact on lifeline utilities, either directly or indirectly. Renewable electricity generation, as an example, will require significant construction which in turn require increased road works, water, etc, all of which will involve significant carbon footprints.

The certainty of Government interest extending into the private sector, especially lifeline utilities, could also be strengthened by the Prime Minister's statement that six public service departments will take the lead on achieving carbon neutrality. The six departments are:

- Department of Conservation
- Inland Revenue Department
- Ministry of the Environment
- Ministry of Economic Development
- Ministry of Health
- Treasury

There are three aspects to achieving carbon neutrality:

- Measure emissions
- Reduce emissions

- Offset unavoidable emissions

The public service departments will address these requirements by:

#### **Measuring emissions**

Agencies will gather more accurate information on the greenhouse gas emissions linked to their energy and electricity use, transport (including domestic and international air travel), and waste sent to landfill.

#### **Reducing emissions**

Agencies will reduce the amount of greenhouse gases by:

- Energy efficiency measures, which might include energy use audits, educating staff on using less electricity, low-energy lighting systems, more efficient heating and cooling systems, and purchase of equipment that uses less electricity.
- Travel measures, which might include workplace travel plans to eliminate unnecessary journeys, purchasing of more fuel efficient vehicles, and transport alternatives such as video-conferencing facilities.
- Waste reduction and recycling systems.

#### **Offsetting unavoidable emissions**

Offsetting emissions without having made plausible efforts to reduce emissions first would compromise the credibility of the programme and could possibly prevent external verification of the carbon neutral status. It is not feasible to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions to zero, so some offsetting will be required.

The use of New Zealand based forestry related projects will have an impact on transport and fuel utilities, video-conferencing will impact on telecommunication utilities and electrically powered vehicles will have a significant impact on electricity generation and network utilities.

While the above-mentioned public service department measures would, in all probability, be in house there is the future possibility that these measures could be extended to other departments and include external suppliers.

This could conceivably be implemented by including carbon emission clauses in the procurement of external services and evaluated as a non-price attribute or a cost adjustment to the tender price.

**These possibilities are floated simply as a reminder that climate change impacts can take a number of forms, not always obvious or direct and also to illustrate that the interdependencies of lifeline utilities are not restricted to vulnerabilities.**

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## **CLIMFACTS Climate Change Model Demonstration**

The CLIMFACTS model allows the development of computer graphic scenarios of the potential effects of climatic change throughout New Zealand. This model was demonstrated at a WELG meeting last year and generated significant interest amongst the people present.

The workshops are to allow individual hands on training of the system and to demonstrate its capabilities. The suggestion has been for a half day workshop to be held in Hamilton later this month for about 15 – 20 people. It is envisaged that the cost would be in the vicinity of \$100 per person to cover computer hire, venue, etc.

The workshop would be of interest to a wide range of parties including:

Utility Companies

District & Regional Council Planners and technical staff

Asset Managers

CDEM Group

DOC

Federated Farmers

Pest management agencies

If you are interested in attending one of these workshops please contact the WELG Project Manager.

### **Recommendation:**

- (1) That the report titled "**Climate Change**" be received for information.

John Harris

**Lifelines Project Manager**

## Tui Mine Tailings

The Government is spending \$9.88 million to clean up New Zealand's second most contaminated site.

The Tui Mine, near Te Aroha has been abandoned since 1973 but ore dumps, mine tailings and water contamination remain. Hazardous substances have been seeping from the site, affecting the quality of two streams which flow into the Waihou River.

The clean-up will improve water quality, prevent the risk of a tailings dam collapse, improve public safety and improve access to reserves adjacent to the site. Environment Waikato and Matamata-Piako District Council are also involved in the process, which will see the tailing dam reconstructed, the capping of the tailing deposits and bulkheading old mine shaft entrances. The work should be completed by 2010.

Dennis Crequer is an officer from Environment Waikato and has had a long association with the site.




Looking from further up, some of the machinery and hoppers till around with the remnants of 44 gallon drums and such like. The sterile tailings area can be seen in the back ground.



This tailings dam and pond can be seen in this picture. The only plants growing on it are in a trial area. Even the embankments have no plants. The effluent from the mine killed all life in the Tui Stream below the mine, and it is only now starting to recover.

### Draft River Flood Risk Management Strategy 2007



**Presentation to WELC  
19 October 2007**

### Draft River Flood Risk Management Strategy 2007


Environment Waikato committed to developing a *strategic approach* in the 2008/16 LTCCP

- Policy development
- River and catchment work
- Information provision
- Emergency management



### River flooding overview

- Most widespread and frequent hazard risk
- 7% of region in known hazard areas
- Lots of communities in flood hazard areas
- Risks are increasing through time



### Tairua River Development



### Tairua River Development

**Issues:**

- Little recognition/understanding of natural systems
- No consideration of cumulative impacts
- Site-specific focus – no catchment considerations
- Risk management mitigation hard to argue against, residual risks not managed well
- Creates risks for communities and Councils to manage in perpetuity

**We cannot easily and effectively argue our position, recognise natural systems and reduce risks**

### Purpose and expected outcomes

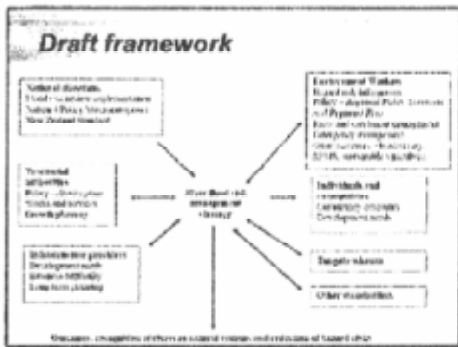
Primary purpose is to develop strategic direction and an agreed framework for river flood risk management – building on existing work

- Strategic and action-oriented

Expected outcome is that the strategy leads to:

- recognition of rivers as natural systems
- reduction in river flood hazard risks

Bottom line is *sustainable development*

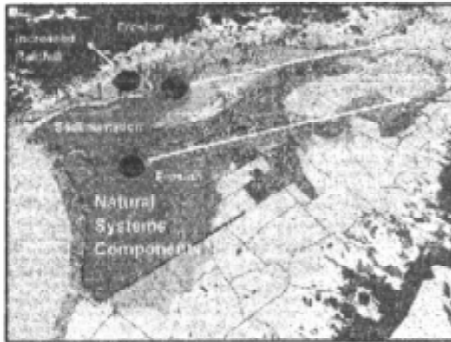


### The vision

**Sustainable communities that:**

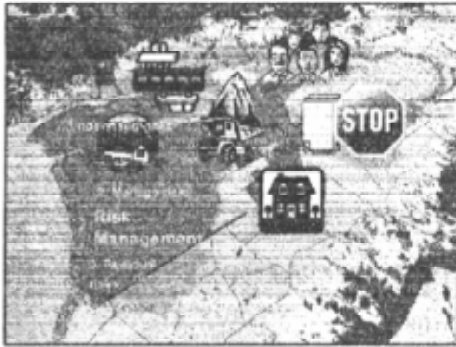
- Understand rivers as natural systems within a whole of catchment context.
- Recognise the level of flood risk and residual risk which may affect them
- Manage existing risks and seek to avoid increasing the risks

- ### Key challenges
- Recognition and understanding of natural systems
  - Policy development
  - Improved risk management practices
  - Information development and management



- ### Policy development
- Recognition and understanding of natural systems
  - Policy development
  - Improved risk management practices
  - Information development and management





**Communication and consultation**

Stakeholder involvement is crucial to achieving outcomes – especially working in partnership with District Councils on District Plans

Informal consultation with key stakeholders to February 2008

Formal consultation February – April 2008

Encouraging comment, discussion and debate

**Relevance to WELG Members**

Make a submission on the strategy

Either individually or collectively

Outputs will guide reduction and readiness

Mapping, policy, advice

Consider implications in asset planning

Be conservative

Avoid/minimise risk

Explore opportunities

Undertake further research

## Incorporating Climate Change into Engineering Design Seminar

- Series of seminars held across NZ during September
  - Hosted by IPENZ, NZPI, NIWA, MFE
- Purpose was to provide the latest information on climate change projects - Topics included:
  - Relevant legislation
  - Guidance material from Ministry for the Environment
  - An update on "the science" – IPCC report and NZ projections
  - How to consider climate change in the design and management phases of rivers engineering, coastal protection, stormwater, and water supply systems, etc



## Key Points/Impressions

### Technical

- Good overview of science – recent data used
- One-sided
- New MFE "Red Book" coming out
- HIRDS being revised to include climate change
- Need to plan for events in excess of design standards (residual risk)

### Policy/Legislative

- Case law important
- Becoming universally applied/accepted
- No excuses for non-inclusion
- 50 year planning horizon too short
- Sustainable development – latest buzz word
- Liability rests with local authorities (re: duty of care)

### General comments

- Networking/interaction opportunities limited – packed agenda
- Overall it was valuable/useful attending

