

Media Release
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Taylorville Resource Park seeks public correction from Grey District Council

Taylorville Resource Park (TRP) is seeking a public correction and apology from the Grey District Council for false statements that are damaging its business and causing community concern over the operation of its landfill facility.

The company's legal team has written to the Council and Mayor Tania Gibson, detailing multiple incorrect statements made by the mayor, which the council will have known to be incorrect.

TRP spokesperson Ellen Taylor says the facility is of interest to the community and the company fully expects scrutiny of how it is operated.

"This isn't about stifling comment, it's about making sure what's said is true. While the Council and Mayor have a right to advocate a position, their statements need to be based on facts," says Ms Taylor.

"We appreciate that taking this step may be seen as extreme, but our requests to be treated fairly have been ignored and any business faced with this level of ongoing misinformation would take action."

Ms Taylor says, based on multiple statements made by Council and the mayor, the community could incorrectly be led to believe the safety of its water supply is at risk.

"After two years of working with Council, providing expert evidence showing the water supply is not at risk, it continues to make statements that are not true."

The Grey District Council has a series of reports commissioned by the West Coast Regional Council and TRP's independent experts, the results of an investigation by the Environmental Protection Agency – and a report commissioned by the Council itself.

They all show the landfill poses low or no risk to the Greymouth water supply now, or in the event of a strong earthquake.

Despite having those reports, knowing that the intake for the Greymouth water supply is upstream of any potential discharge from the landfill - and comments from the mayor that the bores feeding the supply are too deep to be contaminated – there have been multiple statements by Council stating the landfill poses a risk.

Ms Taylor notes that TRP has had its challenges, which it has worked closely with consenting councils, the EPA and WorkSafe to address.

“The community needs to feel confident we are operating a facility in accordance with our consent conditions, and which fronts up and fixes issues when they occur. We’ve done that and all we ask is that the same Council that approved us using the site as a landfill, works with us to ensure we can run a facility that supports future growth in the region.”

-ENDS-

About Taylorville Resource Park:

- TRP operates with consents from the West Coast Regional Council (Environmental) and Grey District Council (Subdivision and Land Use Consents).
- TRP has a 20-year consent with 17 years left to run. The company has invested millions of dollars in a service the West Coast will need to safely dispose of materials removed to make way for new roads, buildings and other infrastructure that support’s the region’s economic growth.

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