

# Environmental Protection Authority (Protection of the Environment) Amendment Bill

25 March 2015

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC, Attorney-General

## Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Environmental Protection Authority (Protection of the Environment) Amendment Bill

### Purpose

1. We have considered whether the Environmental Protection Authority (Protection of the Environment) Amendment Bill ('the Bill') is consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 ('the Bill of Rights Act').

### The Bill

2. The Bill amends the Environmental Protection Authority Act 2011 to add an additional objective that the Environmental Protection Authority (the Authority) must undertake its functions in a way that protects, maintains, and enhances New Zealand's environment.
3. The Authority's existing objectives are to undertake its functions in a way that contributes to the efficient, effective, and transparent management of New Zealand's environment and natural and physical resources, and enables New Zealand to meet its international obligations.

### Conclusion

4. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act.

Jeff Orr

**Chief Legal Counsel**  
**Office of Legal Counsel**

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