

Rotorua Air Quality Control Bylaw

Guidelines to Dispensation Applications



The Bylaw's purpose

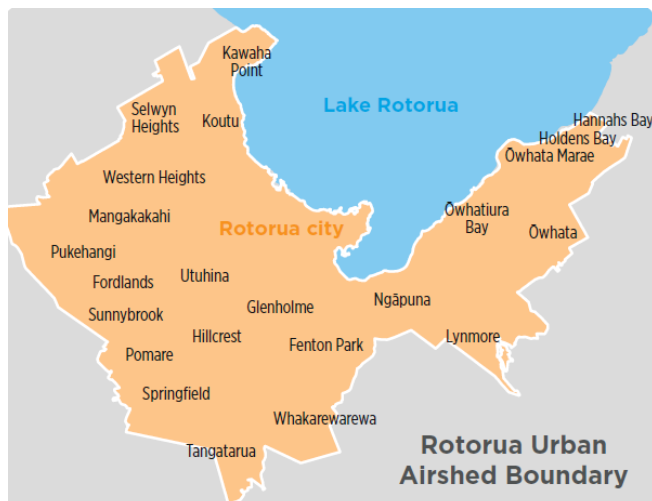
The purpose of the Rotorua Air Quality Control Bylaw 2017 is to improve the quality of air in Rotorua through restricting and reducing the emissions of fine particulates from old and inefficient solid fuel burners used for home heating in the Rotorua Urban Airshed. The Bylaw covers three rules:

- 1 New/Replacement Burner Rule – from 31 October 2017 only clean air approved burners with an emission discharge of no more than 0.6g/kg and a thermal efficiency of no less than 65 percent can be installed in the airshed,(see map).
- 2 Point of Sale Rule – all non-compliant solid fuel burners must be removed, or in the case of indoor open fires made inoperable, by the vendor before the property is sold.
- 3 Indoor Open Fire Rule – use of indoor open fires is prohibited.

Anyone who is affected by the Bylaw may apply for a dispensation using the Rotorua Air Quality Control Bylaw Dispensation Application Form.

Who does the Bylaw apply to?

The Bylaw mainly applies to vendors and purchasers, within the Rotorua Urban Airshed. This covers most of urban Rotorua,(see map).



Reasons for dispensation

Rotorua's air quality is improving slowly, however, if we continue at the same pace, Rotorua will not meet the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality by 2020. In the past, leniency has been applied to dispensation applications. This will no longer be the case. Dispensations will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

The main reasons for applying for a dispensation will be:

Solid fuel burner change required at point of sale

You are selling/purchasing a property with a solid fuel burner that is not listed on the Ministry for the Environment's current National List of Authorised Wood Burners and you believe there are exceptional circumstances for retaining it.

Restriction on installation of solid fuel burners

Your solid fuel burner is not listed on the Ministry for the Environment's current National List of Authorised Wood Burners but it meets the design standard and thermal efficiency standard for wood burners as set out in the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality and as required by the bylaw.

In this instance it is the responsibility of the applicant to prove that the appliance has been tested in accordance with the Australian/NZ Standards AS/NZS 4012:2014 and AS/NZS 4013:2014 and provide the laboratory report.

Application process

- 1) Collect a dispensation application form from Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 1125 Arawa Street, Rotorua.
- 2) Complete the application form and provide evidence where requested to support your application. Please provide as much detail as possible.
- 3) Return completed form along with the mandatory \$200 application fee to Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 1125 Arawa Street, Rotorua.

The Regional Council will assess the application and decide if:

- The application falls under the Bylaw (full compliance needlessly or injuriously affects any person or business or causes loss or inconvenience without any corresponding community benefit); or
- The appliance is acceptable because it meets the required design and efficiency standards even though it is not on the approved lists (and this has been proven by the applicant to the satisfaction of the Regional Council).

Contact Details

Bay of Plenty Regional Council
1125 Arawa Street, Rotorua
Phone: 0800 884 880 880