



Auckland **Regional** Council

Vodafone House  
21 Pitt Street  
Private Bag 92 012  
Auckland  
New Zealand

DX CP 28 008 Pitt St  
tel 64 9 379 4420  
fax 64 9 366 2155  
website [www.arc.govt.nz](http://www.arc.govt.nz)

17 September 2001

File Ref

Patrick O'Connor  
Enviropod NZ Ltd  
PO Box 105-543  
Auckland CPO

Dear Mr. O'Connor

### ENVIROPOD Evaluation

I enjoyed meeting with you on Friday 7 September to discuss the evaluation done for ENVIROPOD by Diffuse Sources Ltd. (Bruce Williamson). I have since communicated with Geoff Hunter regarding his experiences with ENVIROPOD and have read the evaluation report.

Having been involved with ENVIROPOD on the Wairau Rd field trial I was pleased that Bruce accepted the monitoring methodology as being robust and sensible. I agree with Bruce that the type of storms sampled tends to be a limiting factor in terms of the trial. The maximum size of the storm sampled is a 1 in 1-month event so the efficiencies of larger storms are not known. It is expected that, at some point, efficiencies would decline rapidly when the ENVIROPOD unit overflows but when and if that point is reached is not known. Also, it is unknown how well the units will function at sites where smaller particle sizes are discharged to the unit, such as in areas where pervious surfaces are a part of the catchment.

With all that said, the ENVIROPOD 100  $\mu$ m mesh unit can achieve high treatment efficiencies for TSS in road runoff in small to moderate storms. It is a good product that is proving to be a valuable urban runoff treatment tool. However, at this time the ARC is not accepting the practice as a stand-alone practice for new development activities and achieving the 75% reduction of TSS on storms up to and including the 25-mm storm.

The ARC is supportive of its use in retrofitting situations where they are appropriate and as a pre-treatment device for other practices such as sand filters or ponds. Its use as a pre-treatment device would enhance contaminant reduction and reduce the frequency of maintenance of those other practices.

Yours faithfully

Earl Shaver  
Technical Specialist