

## Inner Bays irrigation option is HIGH COST, HIGH IMPACT and HIGH RISK

*It fails to solve Akaroa's problems of leaking sewer pipes and summer water shortages. It uses high value land for wastewater irrigation and is likely to need more land in the future.*

### HIGH COST – rising every time revised Inner Bays option is presented for consultation

- Capital cost of disposal to native trees has risen from \$5.7 million in 2016 up to \$33 million in 2020.
- Cost per connection is now up to \$79,000 – for 830 Akaroa connections.
- Operating costs are now over \$600 per connection per annum.
- Over 60% of the wastewater is storm and ground water, hugely increasing costs.

### HIGH IMPACT – Wastewater treatment moves from a single location to multiple prominent locations



### HIGH RISK –an untried native tree system will be placed in communities very close to houses

- Size of irrigation fields and ponds assumes that:
  - irrigation to the native trees in winter is possible without causing nitrogen leaching and slips;
  - the tree canopy intercepts at least 37% of rain;
  - population growth does not exceed 14% over 30 years. Insufficient to reticulate Takamatua.
- Risk of pollution of shallow inner harbour bays through nutrient leaching.
- More inner harbour properties will be needed if the system is found to be undersized in future.
- Risks of dam break causing flooding to SH75 and homes below the storage ponds.
- Negative impacts on amenity of Akaroa and the Inner Bays from prominent wastewater infrastructure.
- All these risks are omitted from the Council consultation document – *putting your community at risk!*

***We'll be asking the Council to fix the pipes first, treat the water to a potable standard, and re-use it in Akaroa to alleviate water shortages. That solves all three problems with much less impact and makes Akaroa more resilient to the increased intensity storms and droughts expected due to climate change.***