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12 – 16 October 2015 Bali, Indonesia

**Document No. 15/XVI/045**

# Agenda Item: 11.11

# Amateur Submissions to The Auckland Council Unitary Plan

A paper from the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters Incorporated (NZART)

## Background

In 2010, Central Government enacted special legislation which combined seven Local Authorities into a single Auckland Unitary Council, which then became responsible for about one third of NZs total population. This Council is now preparing, through an extensive Consultation Process, a Unitary Plan which sets out the framework for planning control.

## The Submission Process.

Amateur Radio is omitted in the Draft Unitary Plan, but after independent submissions from several Amateurs, the Proposed Unitary Plan was published, designating all Amateur Radio Configurations as Restricted Discretionary – which meant that amateurs would need to obtain an expensive Resource Consent to erect any aerials. NZART established a steering group of Amateur Operators who, with the assistance of a lawyer, has prepared an extensive submission for council to permit a range of aerial configurations used as of right by amateurs – i.e. without the expensive Resource Consent

## Progress to Date

As an initial response, Auckland Council has agreed to give “Permitted” status to “Rural” and “Large Lot” zones, but has left “Residential” zone as Restricted Discretionary. At a planning Hearing in late June 2015, a strong case was made to extent Permitted status to Residential Zones. The planning tribunal ruling is expected in early 2016.

*Douglas Birt, ZL1BFS*

*Local Government Liaison Officer*

*18 September 2015*

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