

# National Environmental Standards

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National Environmental Standards (NES) are prepared by central government and can prescribe technical standards, methods (including rules) and/or other requirements for environmental matters throughout the whole country or specific areas. If an activity doesn't comply with an NES, it is likely to require a resource consent. NES must be observed and enforced by local authorities.

The following applicable NES are currently in force:

- [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry\) Regulations 2017](#)
- [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities\) Regulations 2008](#)
- [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health\) Regulations 2011](#)
- [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities\) Regulations 2016](#)
- [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standard for Sources of Human Drinking Water\) Regulations 2007](#)
- [Resource Management \(National Environmental Standards for Air Quality\) Regulations 2004 \(amended 2011\)](#)