

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 176

Annabelle Jane Edmond, **Annabelle Jane Edmond**

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

The specific parts of the application that my/our submission relates to are:

Notes

I love Pupu Springs. I visit regularly, I feel that it is beneficial for my health and wellbeing. I feel that everybody who visits Pupu Springs receives benefit from the clear, pure, bubbling, calming, soothing energy. It is very healing. The underground water and aquifer must be cared for so that it remains a healthy place for people to visit and for the natural flora and fauna to live. It is vital that the land use above the aquifer and elsewhere in the Takaka catchment that feeds into the aquifer be compatible with the ongoing health of the aquifer and the tiny creatures within it. The move to intensive irrigated farming during the last 10 years has an detrimental impact on the above health indicators. The nitrate level in the main Spring has risen 10%. This feels scary and it is vital that we reverse the damage and do not allow more extensive or intensive farming or water use of the springs and aquifers. I feel shocked and disappointed that the Tasman District Council is proposing to allow 70% more irrigation from precisely the area that feeds the aquifer. It's the high intensity farming, particularly from heavy irrigation and fertiliser use that is of a big concern for me. Organic and biodynamic methods of farming are way better for the environment as well as producing good results. By building the carbon content of the soil, giving attention to trace nutrient balance and beneficial soil organisms, and using deeper rooting pasture species the farms and the springs would do way better. Some farms in the Takaka catchment are already working this way and finding it profitable, showing that there are ways of 'meeting the needs of primary industry' with a far lower impact on the aquifer. NIWA (National Institute for Water and Atmosphere) has advised on 5 key items to safeguard the health of the aquifer... 1) At the Springs, dissolved organic carbon must remain undetectable to maintain the water's extreme clarity. 2) The aquifer should be managed to ensure that water discharging from the springs contains at least 6.0 milligrammes per litre (mg/l) of dissolved oxygen. 3) The aquifer and catchments should be managed to ensure that nitrate-N concentrations in spring water do not exceed 0.4 mg/l. 4) The aquifer should be managed to maintain ammonia concentrations below 0.05 mg/l. 5) The 99% protection level concentrations provided within the ANZECC guidelines for toxicants should apply until further research gives better information. Please safeguard the Springs and aquifer so that the future generations may enjoy them too!

Clause

What is/are your view/s on the application?

Position

Support

Notes

Clause

I/we seek the following recommendation from the Special Tribunal to the Minister for the Environment

Position

Grant the order

Notes

Clause

Would you like to present your views on this submission to the Special Tribunal at a public hearing?

Position

I/we do want to present my/our views at a public hearing

Notes

Clause

If others make a similar submission, would you want to consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing?

Position

Yes

