

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 333

Michael Paul Mosley

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

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

Notes

The entire application for a WCO

Clause

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

Position

Support

Notes

I fully support the application. In particular, I support the Reasons for the Application (Section A1); the Outstanding Values and Characteristics that are specified in B2, B3, and B4; the Threats identified in B5; and the proposed Provisions to be included in the WCO specified in section C. I endorse the concerns outlined in paras 104 and 108, regarding the need to invoke the precautionary principle to manage contamination whose source is unclear but which must be from the agriculturally developed part of the catchment/aquifer, and the need to have adequate, formal, and specific planning rules and allocation limits. As a ratepayer in Tasman District, I have no confidence that the TDC is able to safeguard the outstanding status of the Waikoropupu Springs and its catchment/aquifers using the ineffectual approaches that it has applied elsewhere (notably Waimea Plains). The protection afforded by a WCO is essential to prevent, in this catchment/aquifer, the degradation of other catchments/aquifers over which TDC has presided.

Clause

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

Position

Grant the order

Notes

As a now-retired water resources scientist who worked on several NWCO proposals in the 1980s (Motu, Rakaia, Ahuriri, etc.), I am absolutely convinced of the value of and need for a WCO for Waikoropupu. There will be no let-up in the pressure to abstract water for intensified agriculture in the catchment, which will result in both reductions in flows and increases in contaminant loadings. The water management techniques presently and foreseeably used in Tasman District under the TRMP WILL continue to permit degradation of the catchment/aquifer, because of the focus that TDC has on the district level and on the facilitation/promotion of agricultural activity. A national level focus that takes account of the broader range of matters considered in the application is essential.

Clause

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

Position

I/we do not want to present my/our views at a public hearing

Notes

The submitter have elected to withhold their personal details from publication.