

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 255

Jan Rivers, **Jan Rivers**

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

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

Position

Support

Notes

I support the application including all of the sub-sections which I regard as being inter-related. Pristine springs and aquifers are precious resources for which a precautionary principle should be taken. The last few years has seen several previously pristine aquifers poisoned and in Hastings people have become chronically ill and even died as the result of farming intensification. The Petone aquifer and the Christchurch aquifers have become contaminated with bacteria. Algal blooms in rivers which are poisonous and unsightly are becoming more common because of dairy intensification and rivers like the Selwyn that are heavily used for irrigation are disappearing underground. It is a serious matter when well-fed NZ rivers no longer flow along their length and are severely contaminated. If there is not a strict duty of care and a precautionary principle applied through a water conservation order this set of spring, rivers and related aquifers could also be lost to New Zealand. The dairy industry is an example of Dutch disease - a single industry that is highly profitable - and yet it is beset with debt at both farmer and manufacturer level. It has become a boom and bust industry as milk-powder is hoarded by overseas purchasers. Allowing dairy intensification is hazardous to our national well-being. IN recent years the dairy industry became even more indebted and this together with the losses to water quality make dairy intensification a net loss to NZ despite its apparent and occasional 'profitability'.

Clause

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

Position

Grant the order

Notes

I have visited the springs, seen their uniqueness and beauty.

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.