

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 847

John Smart, **John Roger Smart**

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

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

Notes

There is NO evidence to show that there can be no injury to the environment of Pupu Springs if there is more water extraction from the aquifer from which the springs are supplied with such brilliant clear water. The takers of water for personal gain, irrigating land with the consequential reduction in natural remainder to the Springs and added injurious runoff must be required to show the actual NEED for more take than is already allowed, (though that may already be more than is actually appropriate). Their "need" must be shown by those applicants as actual need, not just desire, wishes, preference, ease of management of their property, added income from increased grass/crop growth or wider possibilities (water bottling). The consequences of the irrigators of not being granted yet more take from the water catchment of the springs are just a matter for them to manage. BUT the consequences to the Springs is a potential disaster which it unlikely to ever be able to be remediated, rectified or recovered. It would be final, not able to be adjusted for, corrected or recoverable. It would be the end, and destruction of a much longer lasting community benefit than the numbered days of having water extraction and irrigation which has to be curtailed in the future of global warming (whether caused by humans or naturally and inevitably) for continuing sustainability of life. There is sufficient elasticity and flexibility in the irrigation management for no more water take to be approved. There is no evidence, let alone proof of where is the end of the elasticity in the survival of the springs. If it goes wrong, that is the end. For ever. A classic case and example of "Moral Hazard" risk. If the Conservation Order is not granted, then the risk of loss falls on all citizens, not the decision makers, or the limited number of beneficiaries of probable grants of more water extraction rights. This is not a risk that should be even considered, let alone approved, so the application for the Te Waikoropupu Springs Water Conservation Order application should be approved to avoid the danger of loose consideration or the possible consequences of moral hazard result making a disastrous and final end to the special character of the Springs. The irrigators have other options, the Springs can only lose its character once to be gone forever.

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