

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 844

as above, **Colin Garnett**

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

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

Notes

In support of enacting sections 199 (b) (i), (iii), (iv) and (v) in supplying protection to the springs

Clause

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

Position

Support

Notes

Because the scientific body of knowledge about what is happening is so limited it is wise to err on the side of caution. The increase nitrate levels indicate upstream contamination. Every endeavour must be made to stop this influx now and that will mean some limits being placed on the polluters. Stringent restrictions will need to be introduced and effected if the response times are as slow as claimed because the problem identified now will only continue to worsen if nothing is done and we are likely to loose a national treasure. This may entail retrospective revisiting of problem causing decisions.

Clause

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

Position

Grant the order

Notes

Place an immediate control on all nitrogen introducing polluters and make such retrospective if necessary. Instigate or continue EFFECTIVE monitoring of the health of the springs and the source of such taking into consideration the claimed considerable time lags associated with the pollution that is being noticed. Afford the greatest immediate protection possible to the springs to return them to their original nature. Continue studies by competent scientific bodies to establish what is the cause of the problem. Refuse to allow any further major takes from the aquifer system until the situation is remedied. That may require no more extraction period, and a revisitation of allowable practices upstream of the springs. That would amount to a total catchment approach due to lack of specific definitive scientific understanding and knowledge.

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

I would like the opportunity if it proves workable.