

[Redacted]

From: Otago Regional Council <notifications@engagementhq.com>
Sent: Monday, 4 May 2020 2:25 pm
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Anonymous User completed Submission Form – Proposed Water Permits Plan Change (Plan Change 7) to the Regional Plan: Water

Anonymous User just submitted the survey 'Submission Form – Proposed Water Permits Plan Change (Plan Change 7) to the Regional Plan: Water' with the responses below.

Full name of submitter

Willy and Sarah Scurr

Name of organisation (if applicable)

Cardrona Valley Farms Ltd

Email

[Redacted]

Postal Address (or alternative method of contact)

[Redacted]

Phone number

[Redacted]

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?

(Being 'heard' means speaking at a hearing)

Yes

If others have made a similar submission, would you consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing?

Yes

Could you gain an advantage in trade competition from this submission?

No

Are you directly affected by an effect of the plan change that:

- a) adversely affects the environment; and
- b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition

I am

State what your submission relates to and if you support, oppose, or want it amended:

(e.g. support rule 'x', or amend policy 'y')

Oppose PC7

State what decision you want the Otago Regional Council to make:

(e.g. amend policy 'y' to say....)

Revisit PC7 in its entirety alongside catchment groups

Give reasons for the decision you want made:

(e.g. I want policy 'y' changed because...)

Cardrona Valley Farms strongly opposes PC7 in its entirety. The limitations of consents for anything less of 35years poses great physical and economic implications for all farmers whether they irrigate or not. Our properties have been family owned for give or take 150years. Our combined knowledge and experience of where we live and how we affect our environment is vast. We are long term custodians. We are proud of our land. We hold it in the centre of our hands. Currently we have irrigated this land for more than 50 years and somewhat longer using more traditional approaches. We understand how the waterways work, how they change, and the importance of getting it right for both the environment and farmer/economy. We have learnt along the way and continue to seek guidance, support and information. Currently we have 7 water takes 3 consented, 2 in the ORC system for renewal and 2 deemed permits of which are in the process of renewal for 2021. We have worked hard over the years to maintain the ever changing standards of these consented takes and have made critical financial and economic decisions based on the certainty (35yrs) of these. We have strictly obeyed rules and regulations of the local authorities to ensure longevity of water. Millions of dollars have been spent on infrastructure. Historically our bank has been able to secure us based on consistent knowledge available and in particular the longevity of consent (security) Recently (2018) we invested a parcel of underutilized and irrigated land adjacent to our home property with the security to access to long term water rights. Spending an additional of 1/2 a million dollars on developing an efficient and sustainable irrigation system we now face uncertainty of plan changes that provide no future planning in sight. Farmers continue to be the backbone of this ever changing world and society and with councils and governments continuing to disrupt their business without thorough discussion, is back-breaking. In a nutshell, PC7; Decreases assurances from our bank Decreases our profitability, not only for us but also the economy, going forward Unstabilises past decisions surrounding development and land acquisition Makes consent renewal unaffordable Decreases the likelihood of potential land sale in the future (who wants to purchase property in our area without secure and affordable access to the water we have had access to for more than 150years)