




From: Otago Regional Council <notifications@engagementhq.com>
Sent: Monday, 27 April 2020 3:02 pm
To: 
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

Geoffrey Raymond Dickie and Carol Maree Keen

Name of organisation (if applicable)

nil

Email



Postal Address (or alternative method of contact)



Phone number



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

(Being 'heard' means speaking at a hearing)

No

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 the Plan Change

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

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

Want it removed.

Give reasons for the decision you want made:

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

I want the Plan Changes removed because the ORC did not do their job. They are penalising water users and the environment because of this. 1. All Irrigators in the Manuherika catchment have been working for several years (at their own expense) on preparing to replace their permits in a co-ordinated and environmentally sound way. We have completed many science reports, field days, assessments of water use. Our large and thorough applications are just about ready. And the ORC is now unjustly penalising irrigators with their short term permit plan change that takes actual water used off farmers, all because the ORC haven't got their own water plan up to date. 2. ORC have been encouraging irrigators to complete and lodge their permits in groups for at least the last ten years. This is exactly what the whole Manuherikia have planned. 3. The majority of the work for our application is completed. It has and will be very expensive but will give us a balance between the environment and water use but the investment is totally lost and completely unjust if ORC only provide for 6 or 15 year term permits at this very late stage. Minimum Flow Plan Change: a. ORC has spent last 3 years chasing their tails trying to understand how to do a plan change. Our Community has attended many meetings on values, proposed flows, faulty science and disrespectful lectures from Council staff and external councillors. b. We have had to pay for our own consultants to try and advise ORC and guide them back on track. An expensive and frustrating exercise. If ORC had done the job properly at the start, we wouldn't be in this mess now. c. 3 years ago ORC announced actual minimum flows options. They hadn't completed the Science, hadn't done any social work or economics and didn't understand how the catchments hydrology worked. ORC claimed they were going to do a plan change on minimum flow and then address the NPSFM. That poor idea was shelved. c. We wanted a solid minimum flow process that included allocation and was compliant with the NPSFM. But ORC didn't get it done. Area Irrigated: Restricting area to be irrigated to one year-two years ago is completely unfair. The areas irrigated in any year may differ-depends on stocking rate/type, crops grown, the type of season. The important thing is that the water application is efficient. We can only invest in expensive infrastructure if we have long term, reliable water supply. We want long term permits with fair and balanced environmental conditions. ORC Executive, some senior ORC consultants and staff and the new Chairperson have been biased and rude in any of their communications with farmers.