

[Redacted]

From: Otago Regional Council <notifications@engagementhq.com>
Sent: Thursday, 30 April 2020 1:13 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

Peter Raymond Morton

Name of organisation (if applicable)

Smallburn 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 not

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 Plan Change 7 Water Permits PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SUBMISSION

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

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

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SUBMISSION

Give reasons for the decision you want made:

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

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SUBMISSION

Please attach any additional information.

OPPOSE PLAN CHANGE 7 WATER PERMITS

I represent the water users from Amisfield Parkburn Catchment, consisting of horticultural, viticultural and pastoral farming.

My back ground is pastoral farming on a property that has been in my family for 99 years. For 160 years the water from the Amisfield and Parkburn catchments has flowed onto our land by way of open channel water races designed and built by Chinese gold miners. Firstly used for goldmining then for pastoral farming, it is the life blood of our land.

I personally have hononga with these creeks and the land, giving me a deep understanding of their behaviour in both floods and droughts.

The history for the last 160 years has seen different approaches to the miner's water rights. We have had 33 year permits, with the right to take and the right of carriage of water, from and to a given point. There have been many amendments along the way ie; 15 year, 7 year permits and the introduction of the 417 (easement for the right to carry water through other properties), with the ceasing of all water rights/permits in October 2021.

I want Council to stand by what is seen to be a contract between council and the water users.

Over the past 10 years, I/we have been working towards this magical date of October 2021 for our new water permits. The whole process has been full of misinformation and mistrust from us to council in the ever evolving changes to the original requirements.

To fulfil the requirement for Council I have spent the best part of the last decade trying to achieve the criteria set down by Council.

I have put water meters in, extended and built storage dams, destroyed a well maintained border dyke watering system (all gravity feed), installed 5 centre pivot irrigators, to achieve the foot print set by Council (27.4 litres per second for 50 hectares of irrigated land).

I have notified and met affected parties, fish and game, Iwi and DOC. I have also completed flow testing on both the Amisfield and Parkburn creeks, indicating that after no extractions of water from the creek, there is still a separation between the creek and the lake, with no apparent effect on the surrounding ecology.

We have also complied with revisiting the already established 417. Finally we submitted our application 21 months before the due date giving Council ample time to process.

Council has been questioned on a number occasion's both by media and at public meetings, at their readiness to cope with the number of permit application by 2021. We have constantly been reassured that Council have had it well in hand. It appears this is something that can be simply achieved if you change the date and the format!!!!

Council has obligations to follow through with the process that they originally demanded.

In our application we have applied for a 35 year term under the present rules, if plan 7 is passed, the time being suggested is a 6 year permit or a maximum of 15 years after a lengthy and expensive arbitration process.

With the uncertainty of the length of water permits, especially 6 years, the banks will be very unwilling to lend on any development.

I would also challenge the voting process that has allowed plan 7 to reach the point on where it is today. After 2019 ORC elections, two candidates were elected to council because they had indicated in the lead up to the election, that they would represent the rural interest on council. When it came to voting, these two members were told they had a conflict of interest even though the vote was on a much broader term and they had no personal gain from it. The Council is made up of a wide range of personal and political views, why then were others not challenged by the same criteria.

PLEASE HONOUR THE OCTOBER 2021 DATE AND THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT THAT YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY DEMANDED.