



SUBMISSION FORM – Proposed Plan Change 7(Water Permits) to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago

Form 5, Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

Office use only

Full name of submitter: Roger Neill Williams

Name of organisation (if applicable):

Email: [redacted]

Postal Address (or alternative method of contact): [redacted]

Telephone: [redacted]

I ~~wish~~ / **do not wish** (circle preference) to be heard in support of my further submission.

If others made a similar submission, I **will** consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing. (Delete if you would not consider presenting a joint case)

Trade competitor’s declaration (if applicable)

I ~~could~~ / could not (circle one) gain an advantage in trade competition from this submission

I am / ~~am not~~ (circle one) 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.

Signature of submitter: Date: **3-5-20**
(Or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission.
Signature not required if you make your submission by electronic means)

Please note that all submissions are made available for public inspection.

State what your submission relates to and if you support, oppose, or want it amended:
(e.g. support rule ‘x’, or amend policy ‘y’)

I oppose the full PC7 Plan Change in its entirety.
.....
.....
.....

State what decision you want the Otago Regional Council to make:
(e.g. amend policy ‘y’ to say...)

I want the plan change to be removed completely. The existing water rights should be renewed under the existing water plan.

Give reasons for the decision you want made:

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

The Manuherikia Valley works well currently. A succession of farmers have been irrigating here for 100 odd years. It does not need re-inventing. Improvements to environmental conditions can be made where identified and needed. Improvements have continually been made in the 31 years I have been living here and observing the valley. Changes to minimum flows and introducing residual flows can be done under the current plan. The water quality is average or above average in most waterways, with some areas that need improved. Work is being done to address this issue. The quality and quantity of the waterways can continue to be examined and issues addressed where needed. The push by the ORC to more efficient use of water has caused intensification of farming in the valley. This intensification needs to be carefully monitored, controlled and reduced if needed, to protect the environment. There is currently excellent fishing in the valley, pre Covid-19, some tourist fishermen were flying in, just to fish our waterways. Care needs to be taken to maintain and enhance the native Galaxiids.

The proposed water allocation is a disaster. It is 50% less allocation for some irrigators. If they are using the water efficiently and looking after the environment, then they should continue with the current allocation.

Farming, horticulture and viticulture are the backbone of the New Zealand economy. This has never been more apparent than now, with Covid-19 wreaking havoc with most other industries. The primary producers need more support, not less. There is a great need for more storage in this catchment. The current Falls Dam is about 90 years old. It was built by the Government utilising depression labour in the 1930's. It is essential that this dam is replaced with a new dam with much larger storage capacity. This will need Government assistance to build the new dam. This new dam has been investigated recently. With much more storage available, greater environmental flows can be obtained down the main stem of the Manuherikia, with the potential for flushing flows to help simulate the natural flow variations in the river. There is plenty of water in this catchment, but there are times of shortage, particularly in the summer. This makes increased storage a win-win for everybody.

The farming, the horticulture and the viticulture rely on the water in this catchment to continue operating. The Manuherikia River is our lifeblood. We enjoy swimming, fishing and picnicking in and near the river and in all the creeks in the catchment. We live here. We love the Manuherikia Valley. We are not here short term just to plunder the resources, but to live here and work here, with nature and we continue to improve our land and everything in the valley. Passionate people in a spectacular, unique valley.

Look at what regenerative farmers, like Peter Barrett, is doing on his farm, Linnburn Station in the Maniototo. This should be encouraged and see if more farmers can adopt some of this practice on their farms.

In summary, don't mess with what has worked for 100 years, but come on a journey to the future which desperately needs more storage to progress forward for the next 100 years.

Please attach any additional information.

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5.00 PM ON Monday 4 May 2020

Post to

Otago Regional Council
Private Bag 1954

Please turn over

Dunedin 9054

Email to policy@orc.govt.nz

Deliver to Otago Regional Council offices at:

- 70 Stafford Street, Dunedin
- William Fraser Building, Dunorling Street, Alexandra
- Terrace Junction, 1092 Frankton Road, Queenstown

Online at www.orc.govt.nz

Please note:

Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least 1 of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):

- it is frivolous or vexatious:
- it discloses no reasonable or relevant case:
- it would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further:
- it contains offensive language:
- it is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.