

**SUBMISSION ON A RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATION
SECTIONS 93(2) & 96 OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**



To: Buller District Council
C/- West Coast Regional Council
PO Box 66
Greymouth

Copy to: Meridian Energy Limited
PO Box 2454
Christchurch

APPLICANT: MERIDIAN ENERGY LTD

Closing date for submissions is Wednesday, 23 April 2008

Submitter Details

Name: CRAIG ADAMS SOPHIE BALLAGH
(full name)
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(full postal address)

Correspondence to be sent to the following name and address: *(if different to above)*

Phone No: 021 705 716

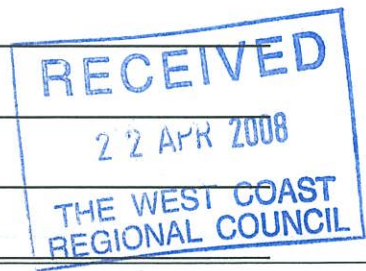
Fax No: _____

Email: craig@tekotago.ac.nz
sophie@tekotago.ac.nz

I/we **support** the application numbers ticketed on the back of this form *(tick one)*
I/we **oppose** the application numbers ticketed on the back of this form

My/our submission is that: We are in Opposition to all resource consent applications ticked on the reverse.
(state in summary the nature of your submission. Clearly indicate whether you support or oppose the specific proposal, or wish to have amendments made, giving reasons)

see attached



We seek the following decision from the Local Authority: To decline the application in its entirety.
(give precise details)


This dam in this location is unacceptable

Use the tick boxes to indicate the resource consent application(s) your submission concerns. Write a clear tick in the appropriate box(es).

We make my/our submission concerning **all** the consent applications listed below
 My/our submission **only** concerns the consent applications ticked below

We wish to be heard in support of my/our submission.
 We DO NOT wish to be heard and hereby make my/our submission in writing only.

 18/04/08
(signature(s) of person making submission) (Date)

 18/4/08
(If this is a joint submission by 2 or more individuals, each individual's signature is required)

We have served a copy of my/our submission on Meridian Energy Ltd as per Section 96(4) of the RMA

Consent list:

- RC07/180-A Land use activities associated with Dam, Staging Area & Associated Infrastructure
- RC07/180-B Land use activities associated with the Inundation Area
- RC07/180-C Land use activities associated with the Walking track
- RC07/180-D Land use activities associated with the Dam Access Road & Power Supply
- RC07/180-E Land use activities associated with Transmission Poles/Lines, Substation & Access Tracks
- RC07/180-F Land use activities associated with the Boat ramp/jetty
- RC07/180-G Land use activities associated with the Log Boom
- RC07/180-H Land use activities associated with the Use and Storage of Hazardous Substances

Reasons for opposition to Resource consents

Lack of Long Term Planning:

That there does not appear to be any overarching **national strategy for New Zealand's electricity conservation, production and future growth**

Without this Macro plan in the **public forum** how are we to have the ability to have a critical input into the future direction these companies wish to take us.

The way it works now is that you want to build a dam here build a dam there... seems piecemeal and reactionary. How can we make an informed decision on the overall impact benefit?

It is a national issue not a community by community issue.

The present situation could be described as a guerrilla war on the part of the power companies against publicly held rivers of New Zealand.

The rivers are a public asset of the people of New Zealand; they should not be taken for the private profit of corporate entities.

I would like to see a greater study done on the rivers of New Zealand around recreational values that the population of NZ place on rivers, looking at physical factors, use factors, and also to look at Sense of place, identity associated with these riverine environments.

This would be part of beginnings of an overarching National strategy for the future of Electricity production, conservation in a NZ context.

Enforced Conservation should be explored.

The separate corporate entities involved need to work co operatively to further develop what NZ needs not what each profit bottom line needs.

This maybe a large paradigm shift, profit or New Zealand, what is more important, these questions need to be addressed.

Heritage Values:

A pristine wilderness area so close to a national park, as conservation land it should be left as a buffer to the park to foster the conservation values of the national park.

Untouched wilderness, leave it as such... dam an already dammed river?

There is a concept of no net loss of heritage values in NZ. By putting this dam in the Mokihinui (it being quite a flash NHV river) you would have to elevate another river to the level of the Mokihinui.. Why don't you dam a low heritage value river? Reducing the net loss of NHV ?

Recreation:

The Mokihinui River provides one of the few moderate graded multiday river trips in the South Island, If not New Zealand. A journey into the iconic NZ landscape, the wilderness, we do not want this to be a myth of times past.

Rafting, canoeing, floating, kayaking, riding and walking all valid ways of travel in this wilderness.

It is part of the legacy of Ed Hillary, get outside and enjoy the natural environment, areas for this "enjoyment" are under constant threat from development

Loss of tourism income

Environment:

Water is a renewable resource, when it rains.

Rivers systems are not renewable, once choked by a dam it is all over.

There are a finite number of rivers

No mitigation can replace a pristine river system, no white water park, no lake, no DoC interpretive board.

The biodiversity of this untouched free flowing system cannot be offset or mitigated.

I question the effective life span of the dam due to silt load. Also I question the downstream coastal effects of erosion at the mouth.

Threatened species will be put further at risk