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23 APR 2008

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

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL



To: Buller District Council  
C/- West Coast Regional Council  
PO Box 86  
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: Kathleen Mary Gaugier  
(full name)

Address: P. O. Box 29062, Ngairio, Wellington 6443  
(full postal address)

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

Phone No: 04 4791620

Fax No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: Kgaugier@extra.co.nz

I/we support the application numbers ticketed on the back of this form  
I/we oppose the application numbers ticketed on the back of this form

(tick one)

My/our submission is that: I oppose the proposal RC07/182A to H on the grounds:  
(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)  
1/ The Mokihinui River has high natural heritage value. It is an irreplaceable biodiversity asset. The loss of which cannot be satisfactorily offset.  
2/ Native flora and fauna will be adversely affected. The loss or decline of species cannot be adequately mitigated e.g. old growth forest, pakihiki-gumland, long-tailed eel, native freshwater fish, blue duck, NZ falcon, Kakariki, Kea, Kereru, fernbird, waka, long-tailed bat, black shag, giant land snails.

Contd on attached page

I/we seek the following decision from the Local Authority: Meridian Energy's  
(give precise details)  
proposal be declined as it is a  
non-complying activity the effect of which  
would be more than minor.

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

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

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

K.M. Gey 21/04/08  
(signature(s) of person making submission) (Date)

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

I/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

- 3/ The proposed dam will prevent the movement of gravel and trees down the river. This movement is essential for the protection of the river from the sea. Gravel and fallen trees consolidate the banks preventing coastal erosion, a concern for Buller residents.
- 4/ Transmission lines will cross areas of significant conservation value, affecting flora and fauna in these areas.
- 5/ The proposed dam will flood the old gold-fields pack track which is of considerable heritage value.
- 6/ The proposed dam will be constructed in an area with potential for earthquakes, posing a risk to the safety of people and property downstream.
- 7/ Meridian Energy Ltd's proposal is unlikely to have direct benefits for Keramea residents. There is no indication that the power generated will reduce the cost or improve the quality of power and security of supply. These issues were identified by residents as outlined in the 2007 Keramea Community Profile (March, 2008).
- 8) Alternative strategies are available, that are more environmentally sensitive and cost-effective eg. solar water heating, localised micro in-river hydro systems, the hydro system proposed by Anthony Black, Solid Energy.
- 9/ There will be an increase in greenhouse gas emissions from vegetation within the lake bed following inundation. This reduces the proposal's value in terms of the "renewable" nature of the energy provided.
- 10/ The wilderness value of the Mohikini River will be substantially changed. This would result in a change in use of the area and a loss of wilderness-type recreational experiences and opportunities.