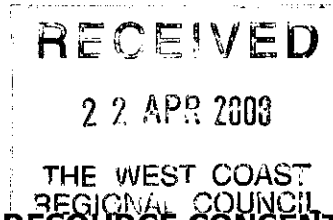


note - have faxed this
also incase postal
service slow.

FORM 6A



**SUBMISSION ON AN APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENT UNDER
SECTION 96 OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**

TO: THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

NAME OF SUBMITTER: Anna Williams
[Full Name]

ADDRESS: 166 Otipua Road, Timaru
[Full Postal Address]

APPLICATION NUMBER: RC07150

1. I oppose the application by Meridian Energy Ltd for a resource consent for the Mokihinui Hydro Power Scheme to dam the Mokihinui River.
2. The particular parts of the application I support or oppose are:
[Clearly indicate which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amendments made to]

the entire application.
3. The reasons for making my submission are:
[State in summary the nature of your submission, giving reasons]

The adverse impacts on the recreational use (white water kayaking, white water rafting, wilderness tramping and adventuring), and on the environment, biodiversity, natural character and conservation values of the Mokihinui River and surrounds. These adverse impacts cannot be satisfactorily mitigated.

The Mokihinui River has great wilderness recreational opportunities which will be irreversibly changed and in most cases lost should this proposal go ahead. The wild and natural character of the river and surrounding area provides wonderful opportunities for adventurous pursuits such as white water kayaking, white water rafting, and wilderness tramping. The solitude and isolation is magical, and the wild nature is awe-inspiring.

The Mokihinui River was my first heli-trip – where we flew into the Mokihinui Forks and kayaked out down the grade 3+- 4 river section. It was an amazing adventure. From driving in along a narrow gravel and grass road to meet the helicopter, to the stunning flight in to the forks (and spectacular view of the open forks area), I really got the feeling that this was the wilderness, and that there was no one else around. The river run itself was incredible – a combination of grade four rapids amongst large limestone and granite boulders interspersed with deep green pools, forest to

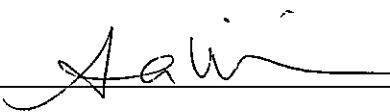
the river's edge, stunning gorges and bouncy wave-trains. This river is special for kayaking because of its natural character and isolation, and its grade. As Graham Charles says in his guide book "*New Zealand Whitewater*" (Craig Potton Publishing, 2006), "a great first-time helicopter trip". There are not that many helicopter trips of this nature (rapids interspersed with large pools) which are suitable for intermediate paddlers and do not require several days (and therefore overnight gear) to do kayak them. I believe that it is important that this river be kept in its natural state to allow future generations to be able to experience it.

I strongly endorse the concerns raised by The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society regarding the environmental and conservation impacts, and the massive destruction and impact on the biodiversity of the area. It is critical that these values be protected. Unfortunately, given the nature of the area, these impacts cannot be satisfactorily mitigated – as shown in the Landcare Environmental Impact report. I am deeply disturbed that it appears that Meridian Energy does not appear to be cognisant of the findings of that report and that they appear to have been unwilling to release the report. Unfortunately, this gives the impression of an attempt at sweeping the findings under the carpet.

4. I wish the consent authority to make the following decision:
[Give details, including the nature of any conditions sought]

To decline the application from Meridian Energy outright.

5. **I do not wish to be heard** in support of my submission.



Signature of person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission.

20/4/07

Date

Contact Details

166 Otipua Road, Timaru _____

Address for service of person making submission.

027 449 0703 _____

Telephone No. (daytime)

03 688 5966 _____

Telephone No. (evening)

Fax No.

Refer above _____ Mobile No.

[Name and telephone number if different from above] Contact person:

Anna.Williams@xtra.co.nz _____ E Mail Address (If available)

NOTE: A copy of your submission must be served on the applicant as soon as reasonably practicable after service of your submission on the consent authority.

FORM6A