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23 APR 2008

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL



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SUBMISSION ON RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS

Section 96 Of The Resource Management Act 1991

TO: THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL	Copy to:
PO BOX 66	Meridian Energy Limited
GREYMOUTH	PO Box 2454,
	Christchurch.

Applicant: Meridian Energy Ltd	Application Numbers: tick boxes overleaf
Closing Date for Submissions on the Mokihinui Hydro Proposal: (Wednesday 23 April 2008)	

(Please print clearly) Title: Mr Mrs Miss Ms (Please circle the appropriate title(s) or write below)

My/Our Full Name(s): ANGUS ALASDAIR JOHN ROBERTSON
VALERIE EVALINE ROBERTSON.

Postal address: 160 PESTERS RD, EYREWELL
No 6 RD RANGIORA 7476.

Wk Ph: 03 312 5555 Hm Ph: 03 312 5555 Cell: 021 1212 458

Wk Fax: 03 312 5110 Hm Fax: 03 312 5110 Email: angus@rallyform.co.nz

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

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

The reasons for my/our submission are as follows (further information attached (tick for yes)
[State in summary the nature of your submission, giving reasons]

POSSIBLE EROSION ON THE SOUTH FACE OF PROPERTY
LOSS OF FISHING OPPORTUNITIES
LOSS OF RECREATIONAL AREAS
EXTRA COST OF AGGREGATE SUPPLIES
LOSS OF MOKIHINUI CORGE AS RECREATIONAL AREA.
NO DIRECT BENEFITS.

I/we wish the consent authority to make the following decision [Give details, including the nature of any conditions]

DO NOT GRANT RESOURCE CONSENT
IF RESOURCE CONSENT GRANTED.
1) RUN OF RIVER BELOW DAM
2) AVAILABILITY & MAINTENANCE OF LAKE AS RECREATIONAL AREA.
3) CONSTRUCTION & MAINTAINENCE OF WALKING TRACK TO FORKS HUT.
4) ALTERNATE AGGREGATE SUPPLY.

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Use the tick boxes below to indicate the resource consent applications your submission concerns.

I/we make my/our submission concerning **all** the resource consent applications below (*tick*)

My/our submission **only** concerns the resource applications ticked below (*tick*)

I/we **wish to be heard** in support of my/our submission (*tick one*)

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

Signature(s): *[Handwritten Signature]*
W. Robertson

Date: *22-4-08*

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 Limited as per Section 96(4) of the RMA (*tick*)

Consent List

Mokihinui River
consents RC07150/1 – RC07150/6

Earthworks and Vegetation
consents RC07150/14 – RC07150/19

Inundation Area
consents RC07150/7 – RC07150/8

General Construction
consents RC07150/20 – RC07150/23

Staging Area
consents RC07150/9 – RC07150/10

Access Roads, Walking Tracks and Recreational
Activities
consents RC07150/24 – RC07150/26

Substation and Transmission
consents RC07150/11 – RC07150/13

[Faint, illegible handwritten notes on a grid background]

To the :- Buller District Council
West Coast Regional Council

Submission on the Mokihinui Hydro Proposal.

Submitters :- Angus AJ. & Valerie E. Robertson.

a). Why we are Submitting.

Four years ago the family bought block 109 as shown on Fig 1 & outlined on the Google earth view fig 2. Approximately 12.5 hectares on the north face was clear of bush but covered in gorse, the remainder of the site is in original or regenerating bush. We have been spraying the gorse to clear it, have shingled a track on the north face and aim to build on the site.

My wife & I aim to retire there and I would continue my work part time as a design engineer. We liked the area for its wilderness & recreational possibilities.

b). Reasons for submissions

1). The south boundary borders a paper road alongside the river and gives us access to the river. This south bank is a riverbank as can be seen in Fig 2 and does not have the bouldered armoured surface layer as discussed in the NIWA Sediments report and thus can be susceptible to erosion. This can be a problem with rapid drawdown & flow fluctuations that will be caused by the turbine operation. Should erosion occur its effect will be far beyond the 40 metres road reserve and would possibly effect the total height of the steep south face along this part of the river. See Fig 3 for an example of a past slip effecting almost the full height of the face.

2). Because the river flow will vary with demand mainly morning & night this will make access to the river for fishing dangerous in the area below our property. There are shingle islands in the river which give access to fishing areas and these would be inundated with the full 120 cumec flow. The river can be crossed with low flows but it is difficult because of the boulder size and slipperiness. To try and move fast with an increasing flow would be very difficult.

3). NIWA in their Sediments report predicts the loss of sandy beaches below the dam and means recreational areas such as shown in Fig 4 (by Chasm Creek) would be lost.

4). Halting of gravel extraction from the river as recommended in the NIWA report would increase dramatically the cost of aggregate. Some 80 truck loads was used in laying down the track on the north face and thus the cost of any further development would also increase.

5). Loss of the Mokihinui Gorge as a wilderness area.

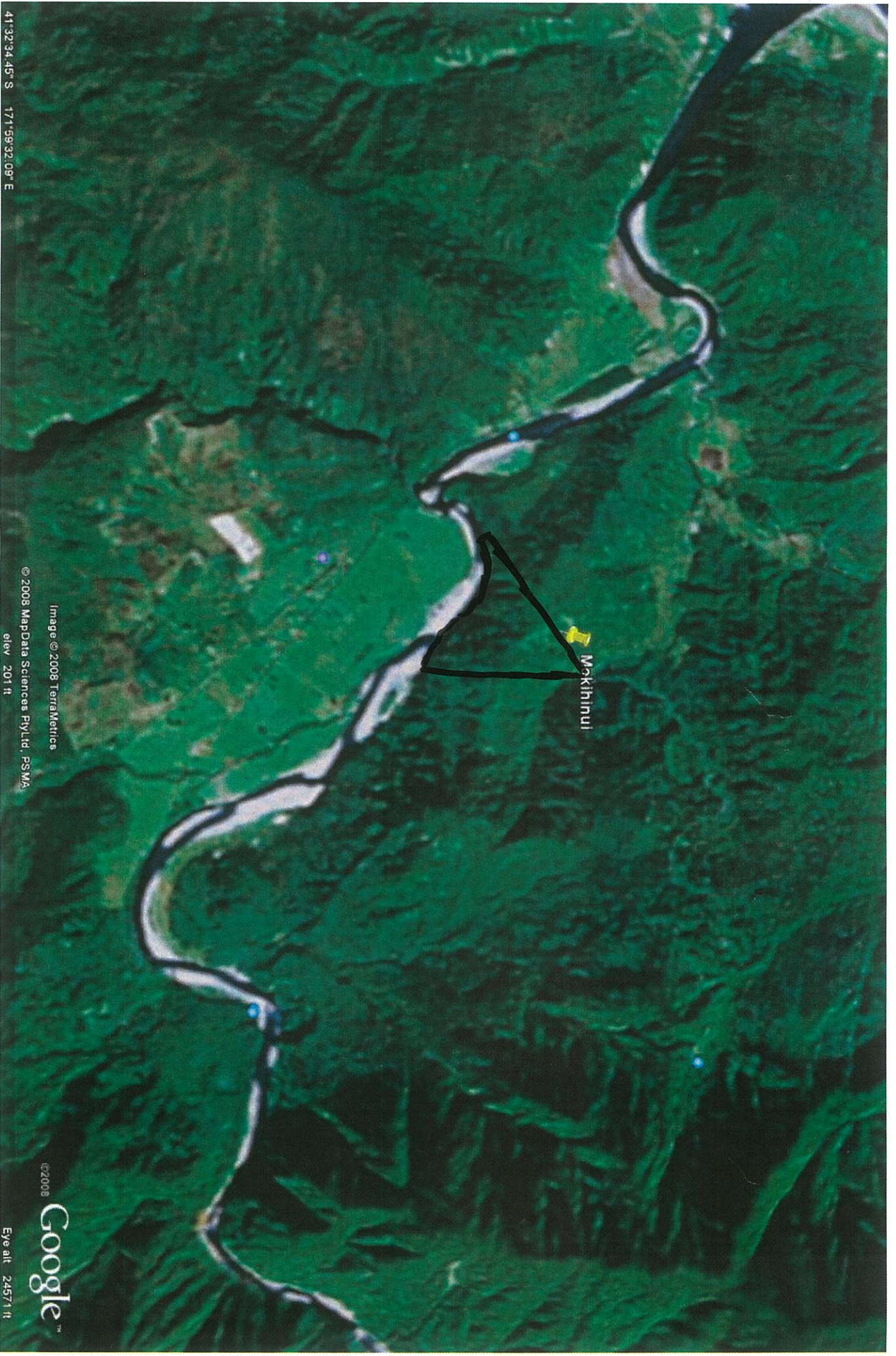
6). Although within 4 km of the dam it will be of no benefit to us, as the cost of reticulation of power makes alternative power sources more economically viable.

Overall the negative affects of the proposed Hydro scheme outway any positive benefits to ourselves.

The hydro scheme is away from the centre of population of the West Coast and power losses greater and recreational benefits harder to capture.

Should the scheme go ahead we would like to see

- 1). Run of river below dam
- 2). Local Aggregate source developed
- 3). public access to lake guaranteed
- 4). Track developed to forks and maintained in good condition
- 5). powered craft not allowed on lake
- 6).. Helicopter access above dam limited to emergency services only.



41°32'34.45" S 171°59'32.09" E

Image © 2008 TerraMetrics

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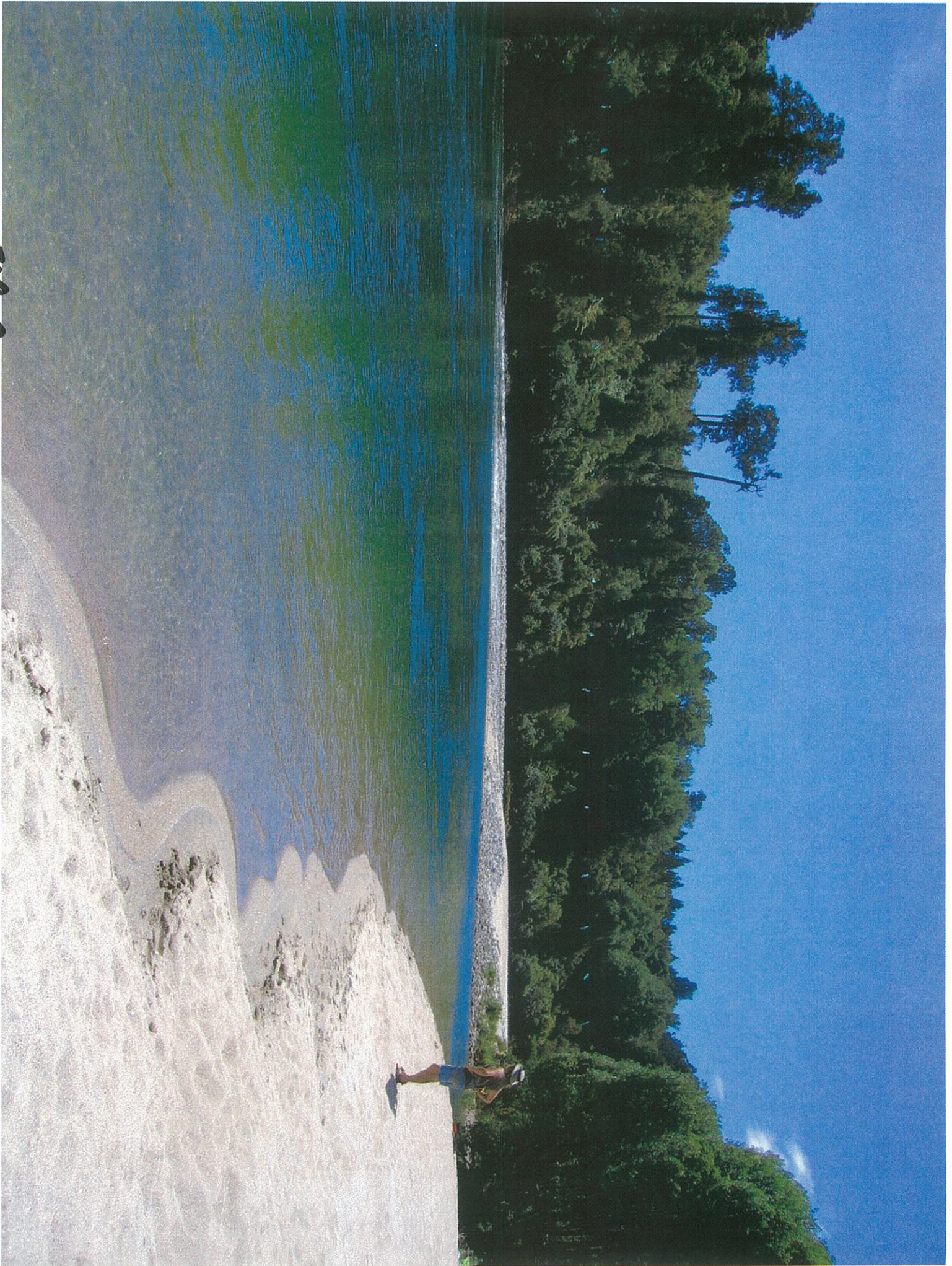
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FIG (2)



FIG 3



512 a