



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: DAVID WILLIAM KING
[Full Name]

ADDRESS: 49 GOLF LINKS Rd
[Full Postal Address] RD3 RANGIORA

APPLICATION NUMBER: RC 07150

1. I ~~support~~/or oppose [delete one]
the application MERIDIAN ENERGY [State name of applicant]
for a MOIKIANGI HYDRO POWER SCHEME [State type of resource consent applied for]
POWER GENERATION COMPANY [State proposal or activity of applicant]

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]

DAMMING THE PRESENTLY FREE FLOWING RIVER.

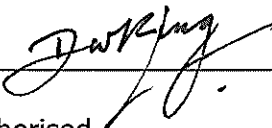
3. The reasons for making my submission are:
[State in summary the nature of your submission, giving reasons]

- 1) DESTRUCTION OF NZ ENGINEERING HERITAGE
- 2) IMPOVALATION OF YET ANOTHER VALUABLE WALKING TRACK
- 3) FLOODING OF NATIVE ANIMAL (KIWI & SNAIL & PARAKEET) HABITAT

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

NO PERMISSION TO PROCEED.

5. ~~I do wish to be heard~~ in support of my submission.
I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission.
[Delete one]


authorised

Signature of person making submission or person

to sign on behalf of person making submission.

16 April 2008

Date

Contact Details

J.W. KING / 49 Golf Links Rd / ADS
Rangiora

Address for service of person making submission.

03 313 7465

Telephone No. (daytime)

03 313 7465

Telephone No. (evening)

03 313 7453

Fax No.

Mobile No.

[Name and telephone number if different from above]

Contact person:

dwking@itug.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.

16th April 2008

SUBMISSION RE PROPOSAL TO DAM MOKIHINUI RIVER

Reasons for opposition

Expansion of Para 3.

- 1) There exists in remarkably good condition a derelict Pelton wheel installation and a Stamper battery which represent a valuable piece of NZ Engineering Heritage. Preserved solely because of its isolation.
- 2) I personally can no longer walk these tracks because of my age. (83) But I strongly believe that future generations should be able to enjoy what remains of the back country, particularly when it is in a superficially pristine condition. Of course a gorge of this nature is very tempting to develop, having been avoided up to now because of the relative isolation of the Buller. I have a particular personal interest because I was responsible for running BEPB mains power to Karamea and later also for much of the MWD design and construction of the Stockton-Ngakawau coal handling scheme. Therefore I valued the area's walking tracks as I am sure modern trampers would also do provided the tracks remain. I understand that a commercial helicopter business and a river kayaking business are operated successfully on this stretch now. I would expect such a service to help provide employment in the district.
- 3) The Great Spotted Kiwi live in this area as does the Red-fronted and possibly the Orange-fronted Parakeet and would lose habitat. Bulldozing operations would create bare ground which entraps the carnivorous snails of the area. I had first hand experience of seeing many dead and dying on a bulldozed track on the route of the Fenian Track on the Oparara for an abandoned run of river power station proposal for Karamea in 1959.

I have been a very enthusiastic advocate of conversion of renewable energy sources since the early 1950's. Indeed I believe I was the first engineer in NZ to connect a Wind Energy converter to the mains. Unfortunately it was an unsatisfactory machine so was never sent to the Chathams as originally intended. In retirement I still give public lectures on the potential of NZ's renewable energy resources, Solar thermal, PV, Wind, Wave, Tide, Geothermal, Osmosis. Therefore I totally value the benefit of our existing predominately Hydro system. Especially Hydro's enormous importance to increase the security of supply and balance the intermittent nature of most renewable energy sources. The ease of control of Hydro is superior to any fossil fuelled high temperature system. However we must retain some natural uncontrolled rivers as a heritage for the future.

For the above reason I would rather advocate extra generators being added to existing hydro power stations so that water could be conserved by supply from other renewable resources. After experience with coal handling in both UK and NZ, I now hold the view that coal (and oil and gas) are valuable non-renewable chemical feedstocks and ought not be merely burned. Hopefully I have given sufficient reasons why the Mokihinui river should not be interfered with and left for future New Zealanders to enjoy.

Yours sincerely

David W. King

