

RECEIVED

24 APR 2008

**SUBMISSION ON RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS**

*Section 96 Of The Resource Management Act 1991*



THE WEST COAST  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

PH: 0508 8000 118  
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**TO: THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**PO BOX 66  
GREYMOUTH**

Copy to:  
Meridian Energy Limited  
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): ROYAL FOREST + BIRD PROTECTION SOCIETY - HOROWHENUA BRANCH

Postal address: c/- Joan Leckie - Secretary

44 Makahika Road

RDI, Levin

Wk Ph: \_\_\_\_\_ Hm Ph: 06-368-1277 Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Wk Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Hm Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: joan.l@ihug.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]

Please see attached sheet

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

We wish the applications to be declined.

**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): \_\_\_\_\_

*Herbie*  
Secretary

Date: 19-4-08

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

## Mohikinui Dam Proposal

Copies to West Coast Regional Council and Meridian Energy Ltd.

From Forest & Bird, Horowhenua Branch.

We oppose the applications as listed.

We wish to be heard.

### The reasons for our submission are as follows:

1. The effect on the ecological environment *is* more than minor.
  - The dam will alter the normal flows of the lower river as it will be subject to variable sudden changes with drastic effect on such native fish as whitebait spawning grounds.
  - The lack of sediment addition to the lower river will change its character.
  - The effects on the eel fishery will certainly be more than minor, as the eels will not have access to the upper river.
  - The effects of decaying vegetation in the lake would be serious in terms of water quality.
  - The natural wild landscape of the gorge will be altered completely.
  - The rafting and kayaking use of the wild river would be lost in favour of power boats, noise and environmental degradation.
  
2. The land in the Mohikinui Gorge is unstable and of a fractured nature, unsuitable for the proposed hydro dam.
  - See attached photographs of the result of the 1929 Murchison earthquake.
  - The fact that an iron bridge was washed away in the resulting flood, and two people were killed in a landslide is evidence of instability.
  - In 1973-1975 the Northern Buller Power Development Study rejected the site as unsuitable for development.
  - Refer to the Postal History of New Zealand, by Robin Startub for further information.

### We wish the following results:

We ask that the applications be declined.

Signed.......... Date 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008

Joan Leckie, Secretary, Forest & Bird, Horowhenua Branch.  
Makahika Road, RD 1, Levin. Telephone 06 3681277  
Email: [joan.l@ihug.co.nz](mailto:joan.l@ihug.co.nz)

## DEVASTATION AT MOHIKINUI GORGE

### AFTER MURCHISON EARTHQUAKE IN JUNE 1929

Photographs taken from a collection belonging to Harold Johnston, a resident of Seddonville at the time.

#### Captions for photographs,

1. Mokihinui River after the earthquake – looking upstream from the crest of the lower dam in the foreground. Upper dam in the background.
2. The landslide which caused the blockage at the lower dam.
3. The blockage at the upper dam of Mokihinui River at the forks, 16 miles from Seddonville, after the 1929 earthquake
4. The lake on the Mokihinui River caused by the blockage in the lower dam in 1929.
5. Mokihinui –Lyell area, east of Mohikinui Mine after the earthquake. Note the massive sheer fractures and slipping.
6. Seddonville flood, July 1929, two and half weeks after the earthquake.
7. Mohikinui Gorge after the flood
8. Mohikinui Gorge 1962 near Welcome Creek, looking towards Seddonville. Harold Johnston alongside a 'rock' rolled down in the earthquake.

Forest + Bird Horowhenua Branch