



**SUBMISSION ON RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS**  
*Section 96 Of The Resource Management Act 1991*

**TO: THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**PO BOX 66**  
**GREYMOUTH**

Copy to:  
Meridian Energy Limited  
PO Box 2454,  
**Christchurch.**

THE WEST COAST  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
PH: 0508 8000 118  
Fax: (03) 768 7133

**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): Joshua Marcotte and Kristen Marken

Postal address: PO Box 310 Hokitika

Wk Ph: 03 7534246 Hm Ph: 03 7534246 Cell: 021 523426  
Wk Fax: see above Hm Fax: see above Email: info@ecorafting.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

I/we wish the consent authority to make the following decision [Give details, including the nature of any conditions]  
We would like the authority to stop the building of the dam or compensate our company for the loss of income it will see if the dam is erected.

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

 \_\_\_\_\_

Date: April 14, 2008

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

Inundation Area  
consents RC07150/7 – RC07150/8

Staging Area  
consents RC07150/9 – RC07150/10

Substation and Transmission  
consents RC07150/11 – RC07150/13

Earthworks and Vegetation  
consents RC07150/14 – RC07150/19

General Construction  
consents RC07150/20 – RC07150/23

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



**ECO-RAFTING**  
Eco Rafting Adventures  
West Coast  
Free ph: 0508 669 675  
Mob: 021 523426  
Email: [info@ecorafting.co.nz](mailto:info@ecorafting.co.nz)

April 14, 2008

**RE: ECO-RAFTING OBJECTION OF THE PROPOSED DAM ON THE MOKIHINUI RIVER**

We, Joshua Marcotte and Kristen Marken, owners of Eco Rafting Adventures, oppose the Mokihinui River dam proposal on the grounds that our small family owned and operated rafting business relies on the Mokihinui River as a dependable source of income. We have been marketing and rafting the Mokihinui over the past few years, and it has already become one of the top 3 rivers that we use. We have invested considerable time, effort and money to better develop and expand our business to offer rafting trips on the Mokihinui River.

The Mokihinui River provides an excellent resource for the development and on-going business of our small eco-rafting business, and is an excellent river for whitewater rafting. It can be run at all river level flows, as a single or multi day trip, and we are able to put the rafts in at points which directly suit our client's abilities and interests. Access and infrastructure are in place to support eco-rafting tours.

There is no other river on the South Island with a lodge directly at the rafting take-out, making it a perfect location for team building exercises and bringing in large number groups to the area. We also use this lodge to run 'luxury rafting trips', an activity truly unique to the west coast, which brings in tourists from a higher economic bracket, with more dispensable funds. We have worked closely with the Rough and Tumble Lodge owners to develop packaged trips; we have scouted and developed trips of various lengths and skill levels to suit a variety of clients. This entire region could truly benefit from this exposure, and is beginning to see such benefits.

Further, the Mokihinui River is easily accessible for tourists to reach as it is close to Nelson/Wellington for fixed wing flights to Westport. It also has excellent trout fishing, another activity our company advertises and markets.

This river is also our back-up river for the Karamea River. When the Karamea River goes above cut-off levels due to high flow volumes which prohibit rafting trips, we use the Mokihinui in its place. This happens quite often - if the Mokihinui River was not available as a replacement river these trips would simply have to be cancelled resulting in loss of income to the region and our company.

The Mokihinui River is a local environmental resource that provides aesthetic and recreation value to locals and tourists, alike. In addition, it harbours historical and Maori

traditional knowledge that has barely been tapped. We question why there seems to be no mention of the Mokihinui River as a popular tourist and whitewater rafting attraction in the public information related to the proposed dam. We have also attached a yet to be published article from Intrepid Magazine (to be released in May 2008), which rates the Mokihinui River as **the number 1 river to raft** in New Zealand.

We are opposed to the proposed Mokihinui River dam and we emphasize that this project would have an extremely adverse effect on our company and our livelihood.

We will be overseas in Canada from April 29<sup>th</sup> until September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008. If you need to contact us during this time please email at [info@ecorafting.co.nz](mailto:info@ecorafting.co.nz), or phone 001 403 220 0453. Alternatively we have asked our friend and employee Keith Riley to speak or make any public appearances on our behalf. He can be reached in Hokitika at 03 755 6684.

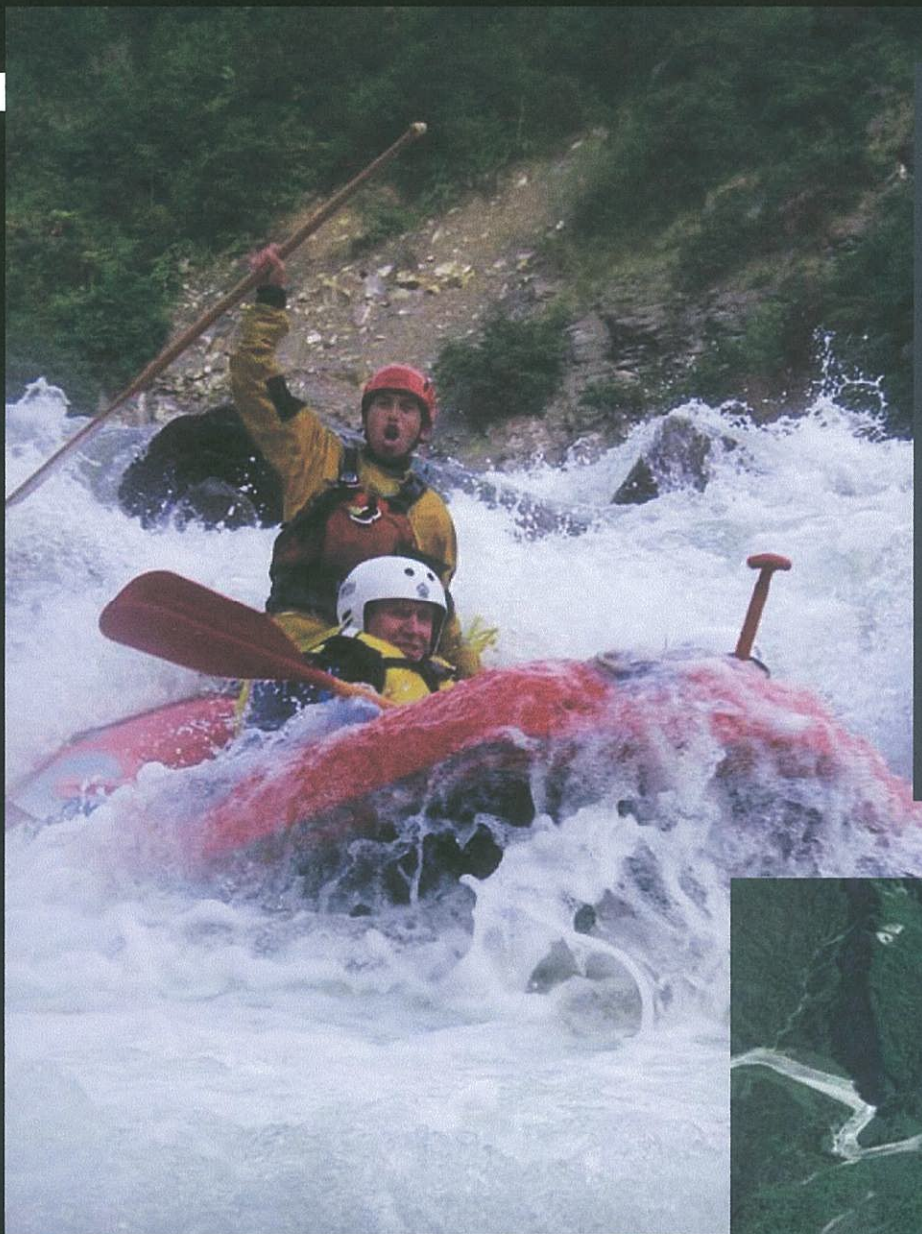
Best Regards,

Joshua Marcotte and Kristen Marken

# MAELSTROM OF MADNESS

IN SEARCH OF  
AOTEAROA'S TOP  
WHITEWATER

New Zealand is world renowned for its raftable rivers that attract adventurers from all over the world. We suggest that if you have never rafted before to go book a trip for you and your mates and see what all the fuss is about. **INTREPID** has taken the liberty of checking out the best whitewater rafting rivers in New Zealand to save you the hassle. We've asked experienced professionals from around the country to rate their favourite stretches of white water, and we've put together a list of top spots.



## Mokihinui River *Seddonville, West Coast*

This mighty river makes it's way into this list as a great all round multi-day adventure. Perfect for the audacious traveller with a bit of spare cash, as the only access is by helicopter. The action is virtually non-stop for two days with an upper and lower section to the beautifully scenic river. This is the local's favourite and you'll be talking about it for years to come. The upper section has non-stop action with pool drop rapids, steep and technical. The second day sees the river double in volume when the south branch of the river joins the north. The lower section has big volume rapids with serious waves and drops. This is an overnight adventure with non-stop grade IV and the occasional Grade V rapid. Suitable for those who are very comfortable in the water but experience is not necessary.

Grade IV-V

Operator: Eco-rafting, [www.ecorafting.co.nz](http://www.ecorafting.co.nz),  
0508 669 675



The junction of the north and south branches of the Mokihinui followed by some serious whitewater.