



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
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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): Mr Terry Robert Kinker / Hine Te ana melissa maryanna Dixon

Postal address: 354 Mokihinui Rd
Seedonville

Wk Ph: 7825083 Hm Ph: 7821858 Cell: _____

Wk Fax: _____ Hm Fax: _____ Email: TerryKinker@extra.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]

We oppose the Mokihinui hydro dam scheme being built

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

I wish the consent authority to make the following decision 'Decline granting any consents'

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: 20/4/08

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

General Comments on the Mokihinui Hydro Proposal Resource Consent Application

I found this document had to access because of the size either from the provided CD or from the internet.

Some of the plans and documents were up to 13MB in size and even drawings were up to 9MB. I find it unacceptable that a document that is supposed to be available for public consultation had been so badly formatted that the files are, in some cases, unable to be downloaded onto a small family computer.

The social impact of this scheme is vitally important to the consent process but it is not available for comment at this stage. (*P 75 Resource Consent Application*). It is difficult for locals to really understand the changes that will be made to their lifestyle and object on social grounds without reference to this report.

Mokihinui River

My objections to this consent are:

The normal river flow of not less than 16 cumecs as outlined in the document are well below the normal level at present of about 90 cumecs. This is sure to affect the river with river bank erosion, loss of fish habitat and the general appearance of the river we have lived beside and loved for many years.

1. Fish Habitat

Trout spawn in the upper reaches of the river and this will be above the proposed dam site. This will result in the loss of the fish population in the river.

2. Social Amenities

The river is one of the social centres of the community and outlying areas with the swimming holes, fishing and picnic opportunities. These will be lost if the proposed dam is built.

3. Water Table Level

Most of the residents of the area get water from a well. If the river level is lower the water table level will drop as well and this will effect the well levels.

4. The River

Lower river levels will increase the river bank erosion and change the whole nature of the river. We live here and enjoy the environment and a large part of this attraction is the river. It is a vital part of our community.

Inundation Area

My objections to this consent are:

The area inundated is expected to be 340 hectares of well used recreation area.

1. Area to be Inundated

This area is used extensively by locals and is a well known regional hunting area. The proposed scheme will make this area unaccessable.

Staging Area

My objections to this consent are:

This area will be used as a construction zone and have unacceptable levels of noise, dust and lighting.

1. Noise

The proposal to limit noise may be acceptable in an urban area but will not be acceptable in a rural environment. Noise is amplified in this area due to the still weather and valley environment. One of the attractions about living at Seddonville is that the only noise we hear are natural ones and we don't want to have to endure about 5 years of noise as the project is constructed.

2. Lighting

Lighting will be required as construction will be 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This is likely to be visible from my place.

3. Dust

To say that dust will not be a problem because of the high rainfall shows a complete lack of understanding of West Coast conditions. Will we do have a high rainfall it is more likely to fall heavily for a short time rather and be continuous. According to the met Service there were 168 days last year when rainfall was over 1mm. This means there is a lot of days when only a small amount of rain will fall and not be enough to contend with the dust problem. It is not unusual for this area to go for two months without any appreciable rain especially in the January, February and March months. Dust will be a problem

Substation and Transmission Line

My objections to this consent are:

The substation and transmission line will be built through areas of regional importance to trampers and hunters

1. Transmission Line

The Transmission line route is through areas where we have traditionally hunted and tramped. The disturbance due to the construction will remove wildlife from the area.

2. Substation Area

The substation site at Cedar Creek is also in the vicinity of regionally important hunting and tramping areas.

Earthworks and Vegetation

My objections to this consent are:

Earthworks and vegetation removal in an area like the Mokihinui River are not acceptable to people living in this area..

1. Earthworks

Any earthworks in this area will destroy the natural attractions of the area, the forest and natural life.

2. Vegetation Removal

Vegetation removal and removal of the natural forest in this area is not acceptable.

Access, Walking Tracks and Recreational Activities.

My objections to this consent are:

The walking tracks and recreational areas are my life after work and why I live here

1. Walking tracks

The tracks and huts are considered in the report as only of 'regional importance'. I dispute this as many of the names in the visitor books are international travellers. I also consider 'regional importance' and being very important to me.

2. Walking Track Closure

For this track to be closed for five years is unacceptable. Many of the locals use this track regularly and there is no alternative method of getting into the area.

3. Historic Sites

It is unacceptable for any historic sites to be destroyed even though there are similar ones in other areas. These sites are not the same as those in other areas as all settlements had different characteristics.

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