

**SUBMISSION ON A RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATION
SECTIONS 93(2) & 96 OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**



To: Buller District Council
C/- West Coast Regional Council
PO Box 66
Greymouth 7840

Copy to: Hydro Developments Limited
PO Box 204
Westport 7866

APPLICANT: HYDRO DEVELOPMENTS LTD

Closing date for submissions is 5pm on Friday 30 January 2009

Submitter Details

Name: MARGARET ~~JONES~~ WUILLIE JONES
(full name)

Address: COUNTER DELIVERY NGAUKAWA STORE, HECTOR 7867
(full postal address)

Correspondence to be sent to the following name and address: (if different to above)

Phone No: (03) 7828289

Fax No: _____

Email: mwuillie@kol.co.nz

- I/we support the application numbers ticketed on the back of this form (tick one)
- I/we ~~oppose~~ oppose the application numbers ticketed on the back of this form
- I/we neither support nor oppose the application numbers ticketed on the back of this form

My/our submission is that: See attached typed 2 pages
(state in summary the nature of your submission. Clearly indicate whether you support or oppose the specific proposal, or wish to have amendments made, giving reasons)

RECEIVED
15 JAN 2009
THE WEST COAST
REGIONAL COUNCIL

I/we seek the following decision from the Local Authority: _____
(give precise details)

- That the consents not be granted.
- That the applicant resubmit a proposal for a tunnel from the Stockton Plateau to Ngakawan.

Use the tick boxes to indicate the resource consent application(s) your submission concerns. Write a clear tick in the appropriate box(es).

I/we make my/our submission concerning all the consent applications listed below
My/our submission only concerns the consent applications ticked below

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

[Signature] _____ 12/1/09 _____
(signature(s) of person making submission) (Date)

(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 Hydro Developments Ltd as per Section 96(4) of the RMA
yes

Consent list

RC08/131A Stockton Plateau - Project infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RC08/131E Realignment of Stockton haul road	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RC08/131B Granity Construction site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RC08/131F Transmission spur lines, telecommunication cables and switch yards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RC08/131C Tunnelling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RC08/131G Disturb a historic coal tramway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RC08/131D Hazardous substance storage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

My submission is that:

I do not support Stockton Plateau Hydro Project proposal in its current form. In theory, I support the concept of hydro power and believe that the idea of a hydro scheme generating electricity can be environmentally sound. However in this case, the hydro tunnel is planned to go through the middle of an ecological park, very close to the town of Millerton and the underground power station is to be built in the centre of Granity. This would seriously inconvenience about 300 people from Millerton and Granity in their daily lives, with

- noise
- lighting
- visual
- traffic pollution
- nearby storage of hazardous substances
- marine pollution

during the 5 or more years of construction and furthermore indefinitely with the maintenance and running of the hydro. As a member of this community, a resident of Millerton and a teacher at Granity School, I am personally affected by this.

The hydro proposal does not take the well being of the local population into account. The local residents are being asked to sacrifice their peace and quiet in order that a hydro power scheme be built for the Buller region. We have yet to be made aware of any mitigating circumstances. Cheaper power has not been assured.

Consider the fact that there is a huge amount of land which is uninhabited in this area. **Why can't the hydro tunnels go from the Stockton plateau in the direction of Ngakawau (instead of through the gazetted Millerton Ecological Park) and emerge behind the industrial site of the Ngakawau coal facility (instead of under the town of Granity)?** This would not contravene the Millerton ecological park and it would be less of an inconvenience to local residents of Millerton and Granity.

Coastal pollution

I am concerned about the detrimental effect of the outfall of the hydro tunnel water into the ocean on marine life.

Tunnels and construction

Re Plan C005 Noise and visual pollution

I would like to know exactly where the tunnel vents and permanent access roads will be built. It appears from the map that they will be in direct view of my home in Millerton. The terrain is very steep and will need cuttings for access roads which will require blasting. The noise of drilling and construction will continue on and off over a period of 5 years at least. The visual impairment will be permanent.

- The roads themselves and the 3 tunnel vent locations will be both a visual and noise pollutant to me as a resident of Millerton.
- I also object to the drilling of tunnel vents and building of roads cutting through the Millerton Ecological Park, which only four years ago was gazetted as a mine free zone below the ridgeline, where it was agreed that there would be no visual

or environmental impairment. What on earth is the point of the Park if this does not apply to all developments, not just mining?

Weka Dam

(Also referred to as a “lake”?)

Noise

I submit that the construction noise of the dam will be **far louder than as described in the AEE**, p.86 : due “to the presence of large scale coal mining operation, it is anticipated that noise effects will be indistinguishable from background noise and no more than minor.”

Consider that the site is only 2 km from Millerton and in line of sight. The noise we hear currently is the back up of dump trucks to Number 5 station and the sound of reversing signals, every so often, audible but distant. I can’t see how the noise of a dam construction only another half kilometre along at Tin Town corner, with dump trucks, bulldozers, diggers, a gravel crushing plant, plus blasting and drilling could possibly be brushed off as “background noise” to a passive listener in their residence at Millerton.

Visual

Tin Town corner is line of sight from Millerton, so lights used at night would also interfere with residents.

Water

I am concerned with interference to the flow of Granity, Miller and Mine Creeks. The tunnel construction and drop holes of the tunnel vents will have a detrimental effect on the surrounding vegetation and current water courses of and the flow of these creeks above ground?

Water on Stockton Plateau

The entire construction of the Hydro with the discharge of AMD will have a detrimental effect on the quality of water and therefore the vegetation and fauna in the Millerton Ecological Park and elsewhere on the Stockton Plateau.

Public Access

The Dam will block off a track, which I use to access the Repo Basin. I see in the AEE that this is regarded as an advantage because it will block trail bike access to this ecologically sensitive area. Does the development mean to block off public access to the Repo Basin altogether? After Stockton mine closed the public part of Burma Road in 2001, the MAPPS group and DOC created a track to the Mangatini and Repo which, in the hydro proposal, will be destroyed to create the new haul road. How will the public access this reserve now?