

Resource Consent submission

To: The Chief Executive
Environment Southland
Private Bag 90116
DX20175
Invercargill

Date 28/08/2024 17:05
Online reference number RC240864348

Full name of submitter Warren John Tuckey
Postal address Section 53
Contact phone number
Email

Applicant details

Name of applicant Te Runanga o Awarua, Department of Conservation,
Environment Southland
Activity location Waituna Lagoon
Application number 20242456

Submission details

My submission relates to the whole application Yes
Details of my submission I submit that the application has only identified the direct land drainage impacts of the proposed lake levels and has not fully considered the actual hydraulic impact of impeded drainage which would prevent outflows from many more hectares of land drained by tile and mole drains, resulting in the blocking of the drains and subsequent impacts on production and

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therefore financial viability of affected properties.

The NIWA report acknowledges the uncertainty in areas affected by impacted land drainage.

The application recognises the the drainage situation will be exacerbated by climate change induced increases in the mean annual flood , under all modelled scenarios.

This is not a satisfactory situation and it is difficult to see how a long term resource consent could be granted, given such uncertainty.

I would also submit that the decision-making process for three bodies with, at times, conflicting roles, responsibilities or expectations is not clear and could result in situations where no action can be taken as agreement can't be reached.

No

No

Submission uploaded

I am a trade competitor of the applicant (for the purposes of section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991)

Outcome sought

I wish Environment Southland to make the following decision

To oppose the application.

Why I wish Environment Southland to make this decision

The application fails to recognise the large area the will be affected by direct inundation and impeded land drainage by an 2.5m lagoon level and address the existing property rights of owners of that land. This could be addressed by better identification of these areas and the effects addressed by purchase or compensation.

The application also does not address the decision-making process for the three proposed consent holders to come to an agreed position on opening the lagoon once the various trigger levels are reached. This needs to be clarified before a resource consent can be considered as three organisations with different legislative responsibilities/cultural values may not be able to reach agreement.

The proposed transitional 5 year regime is an indication of the difficulty the applicant has in identifying the effect of high lagoon levels on ecological, cultural, recreational and economic values. It would be more appropriate for the term of any resource consent issued be 5 years to enable these effects to

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be clarified and addressed.

Hearing details

I wish to be heard in support of my submission No
I wish to be involved in any pre-hearing meeting that may be held for this application Yes

Confirmation

I will serve a copy of my submission on the applicant and I confirm all of the above information is correct

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