

Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 – Waikato and Waipa River Catchments.

Submission form on publicly notified – Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 – Waikato and Waipa River Catchments.

SubForm	PC12016	COVER SHEET	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
		Submission Number	
Entered		Initials	
File Ref		Sheet 1 of	

FORM 5 Clause 6 of First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991

SUBMISSIONS CAN BE	
Mailed to	Chief Executive, 401 Grey Street, Private Bag 3038, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240
Delivered to	Waikato Regional Council, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton East, Hamilton
Faxed to	(07) 859 0998 <i>Please Note: if you fax your submission, please post or deliver a copy also</i>
Emailed to	<i>Please Note: Submissions received by email must contain full contact details. We also request you send us a signed original by post or courier.</i>
Online at	www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/healthyrivers
We need to receive your submission by 5pm, 8 March 2017.	

YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS			
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		Fax	

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE OF SUBMITTER		
Full name		
Address for service of person making submission		
Email	Phone	Fax

PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER YOU WISH TO BE HEARD IN SUPPORT OF YOUR SUBMISSION
<input type="checkbox"/> I wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submissions.
<input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submissions.

I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

SIGNATURE

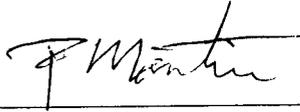
OF

SUBMITTER

*(or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter)
Signature is not required if you are emailing a submission, electronic reading*

Signature

p martin



Date

8/3/17

Personal information is used for the administration of the submission process and will be made public. All information collected will be held by Waikato Regional Council, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

SUBMISSION POINTS: General comments

I own a small farm block near Hamilton, and a sheep and beef cattle farm in the South Waikato of approximately 200 ha

The farm has been run by my elderly father until recently and so number of stock and production has not been maximised for best economic returns, and inputs of fertilizer, particularly N and P have been low so reducing the expected nutrient losses and environmental effects of these. Stocking rates have also been consequently low so any grand parenting of such levels in this case is not only irrelevant to the current and on-going situation, but very economically limiting to the viability of the farming operation in the future.

Other neighbouring properties have had much higher inputs and stocking rates and so will be able to pollute and produce more without a concern based on the proposed "clean river" changes. While I would agree that some limits on nutrient leaching from farms should be reasonably expected, the concept of simply blanketing all farm, all soils, all contours into one category and limiting any future development, is about as bright as suggesting to solve the NZ or Auckland housing crisis, a law should be passed to prevent future house building so that people must go to another country.

The simple fact of life is both farming and environmental technology will both continue to evolve, improve and develop, so that new information and strategies will be found that not only allow for future development and new farming practices near waterways and on the land, but that these will also reduce the impact on the environment in which the farming operations are being carried out.

Again this clean rivers proposal appears under the auspices of the resource management act, to simply try to limit any future operation on any given property, to what has been there in the last couple of years, this supposedly to reduce the impact on the environment and more specifically the water ways.

It does not however recognise that some operations whether farming or not, have had more or less impact than others that are also currently in existence, or that future technologies and industries may be created to allow intensification without necessitating increased nitrogen, phosphate or any other type of environmental pollution.

If the same logic were to be applied to an urban pollution problem, say that of covering our lands with very average to ugly houses, of building black tar strips for those house occupiers to operate their unclean emitting (carbon monoxide) oil spilling and rubber polluting metal monsters (cars) and digging huge dusty pits and transporting the massive volumes of soil, rock, metal, calcium iron and timber required to build these un-clean new environments; then I suggest if the regional council and its planning staff, the environmental groups, the iwi representatives and all others trying to clean up our great country were honest about doing this task they champion for the good of us all and the environment; they would ban such urban development as it leaves a very distasteful mess on the earth, leaving large open scars, displacing people, native and rare flora and fauna, and opening us up to regular pollution dumping and spillage that does nothing good for the environment and cannot therefore be justified under an act of parliament designed to prevent negative impact on our environment.

Looking into the future, we may or may not wish to change our operation, or perhaps even our complete business, so to make rules based on numbers of sheep and cows my father may or may not have had, is simply idiotic, and irrelevant to the protection of the environment.

These rules should be based on science, on current and continually updating information of nutrient, soil and other pollution factors relevant to the different environments throughout the Waikato river system.

It should not be lost on the councillors and iwi representatives and environmental champions, that while the majority of them now live within urban areas, these urban areas were once bastions of natural life, trees, wetlands birds fish and other creatures, it is generally those in the rural areas who have kept,

guarded and protected the greater rural environment to which these groups now have refocussed upon, having gained the benefit of their past environmental rape.

Again while we all need to protect what is left and what is good, just because you have cut the trees off your small section, or you currently gain the benefit of it having been done previously, so you have no conscience about that fact, it is still up o all, not just the land owners to pay for the protection of the remainder and of the environment in which we all live, not just those who have managed to save and keep what is still there for the reborn land concerned environmentalists to suddenly assume control at the expense of the true caretakers.

I support the submission that has been lodged by Federated Farmers. I am particularly concerned about the following aspects of Plan Change 1:

- The significant negative effect on rural communities
- The cost and practicality of the rules.
- The effect that the Nitrogen Reference Point will have on my business and my economic wellbeing.
- The Farm Environment plan requirements leading to unnecessary and costly regulation of inputs, outputs, normal farming activity and business information
- The costs and practicality of the rules and requirements for stock exclusion, the Nitrogen Reference Point and the Farm Environment Plan.
- The timeframes for complying with the Nitrogen Reference Point rules which are too short and unachievable
- The plan significantly exceeding the 10 year targets in many attributes and areas
- The lack of science and monitoring at the sub catchments level

The lack of balance between the pollution identified as off farm pollution, and the lack of interest in the river pollution created by other industry, city dwellers and other sources .

I am concerned about the implications all of this will have for my property and for my current activity as described above, and any future plans we may wish to develop as new technologies become apparent

UBMISSION POINTS: Specific comments

Page No	Reference (e.g. Policy, or Rule number)	Support or Oppose	Decision sought Say what changes to Plan Change 1 you would like	Give Reasons
40	Rule 3.11.5.2 Permitted Activity Rule – Other farming activities			
41	Rule 3.11.5.3 Permitted Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan under a Certified Industry Scheme	OPPOSE	Amend 3.11.5.3 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities

Page No	Reference (e.g. Policy, or Rule number)	Support or Oppose	Decision sought Say what changes to Plan Change 1 you would like	Give Reasons
42	Rule 3.11.5.4 Controlled Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan not under a Certified Industry Scheme	OPPOSE	Amend 3.11.5.4 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities including
44	Rule 3.11.5.5 Controlled Activity Rule – Existing commercial vegetable production			
45	Rule 3.11.5.7 Non-Complying Activity Rule – Land Use Change	OPPOSE	Amend 3.11.5.7 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities.
46	Schedule A: Registration with Waikato Regional Council			

Page No	Reference (e.g. Policy, or Rule number)	Support or Oppose	Decision sought Say what changes to Plan Change 1 you would like	Give Reasons
47	Schedule B: Nitrogen Reference point	OPPOSE	Amend Schedule B as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities
50	Schedule C: Stock Exclusion	OPPOSE	Amend Schedule C as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities
51	Schedule 1: Requirements for Farm Environment Plans	OPPOSE	Amend Schedule 1 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities including I am also concerned that this is not practical



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