

# 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	
<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b>			
		Submission Number	
Entered		Initials	
File Ref		Sheet 1 of	

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

SUBMISSIONS CAN BE	
<b>Mailed to</b>	Chief Executive, 401 Grey Street, Private Bag 3038, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240
<b>Delivered to</b>	Waikato Regional Council, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton East, Hamilton
<b>Faxed to</b>	(07) 859 0998 <b>Please Note:</b> if you fax your submission, please post or deliver a copy also
<b>Emailed to</b>	<a href="mailto:healthyrivers@waikatoregio55860400004510365586040000451036n.govt.nz">healthyrivers@waikatoregio55860400004510365586040000451036n.govt.nz</a> <b>Please Note:</b> Submissions received my email must contain full contact details. We also request you send us a signed original by post or courier.
<b>Online at</b>	<a href="http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/healthyrivers">www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/healthyrivers</a>
<b>We need to receive your submission by 5pm, 8 March 2017.</b>	

YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS		
Full name Richard Allen Johnson and Elizabeth Anne Johnson		
Full address 498 Lake Arapuni Road, R.D.1 Putaruru 3481		
Email lakesidefarms@xtra.co.nz	Phone 07 8835890	Fax

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE OF SUBMITTER		
Full name Richard Allen and Elizabeth Anne Johnson		
Address for service of person making submission 498 Lake Arapuni Road, R.D.1. Putaruru 3481		
Email lakesidefarms@xtra.co.nz	Phone 07 8835890	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 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 make your submission by electronic means.*

Signature

Richard and Elizabeth Johnson

Date 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017

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**

We own a 197ha diary and grazing farm, milking 540 dairy cows at Arapuni, a 75ha Diary farm at Putaruru, milking 220 dairy cows and a 72ha dry stock farm in the South Waikato district.

We operate a system 5 dairy farm at Arapuni on the edge of Lake Arapuni and a system 4 dairy farm at Putauru. All three farms are fully compliant with fencing of the waterways and have been for a long time. We have invested heavily in our environmental plans on these farms to date using the best available scientific knowledge available at the time.

In the future, we plan to perhaps change our farming operation, depending on our circumstances which may require temporary adjustments to our overall farming plan. This we have embarked on once before, as a temporary measure to accommodate a change of circumstances.

I am concerned about the following issues with PC1 that as the owners of private land we would be restricted from ever changing our land use options and the increasing burden of compliance with District Council, Regional Council and Central Government. (financial cost and time cost)

Robust scientific knowledge directly relative to farmers allowing us to make sound business/farming decisions have been hard to obtain and difficult to interpret.

The knowledge that there are over 50 consented discharge activities are in place to directly discharge effluent into the Waikato River has been a major concern to us for many decades now. These range from the town and city councils along the Waikato River to Kinleith Timber Mill to the South of us.

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

I wish to be heard at the Hearing.

I am concerned about the implications all of this will have for my property and for my current activity as described above. I set out my concerns more specifically in the table below.

**SUBMISSION 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	<b>Rule 3.11.5.2</b> Permitted Activity Rule – Other farming activities			
41	<b>Rule 3.11.5.3</b> Permitted Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan under a Certified Industry Scheme	<b>OPPOSE</b>	Amend 3.11.5.3 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	<p>This proposal will impose significant costs on our farming activities including the potential overall reduction of production going off farm that will potentially make the EFS unviable to continue farming in it's current form. This will in turn cause staff redundancies which will have a negative community impact.</p> <p>We are also concerned that this is not practical because farms are not the only Nitrogen source of pollution in the Waikato River Catchment and that current permitted to discharge holders are significant contributors to N and P pollution in the Waikato River Catchment.</p>

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42	<b>Rule 3.11.5.4</b> Controlled Activity Rule – Farming activities with a Farm Environment Plan not under a Certified Industry Scheme	<b>OPPOSE</b>	Amend 3.11.5.4 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	<p>This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities as we already have reduced our Nitrogen use to an acceptable level on our farms.</p> <p>I am also concerned that this is not practical because each of our three farms have different soil structures and land use.</p>
44	<b>Rule 3.11.5.5</b> Controlled Activity Rule – Existing commercial vegetable production			
45	<b>Rule 3.11.5.7</b> Non-Complying Activity Rule – Land Use Change	<b>OPPOSE</b>	Amend 3.11.5.7 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	<p>This proposal will impose significant costs on my farming activities including inability to be able to change to any alternative type of farming and revert back to original land use if so required.</p> <p>I am also concerned that this is not practical because being able to use land in the Waikato for alternative crops/type of farming is sometimes in the best interests of the owners or district or is simply more practical.</p>
46	<b>Schedule A:</b> 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	<b>Schedule B:</b> Nitrogen Reference point	<b>OPPOSE</b>	Amend Schedule B as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	I am also concerned that this is not practical because there is not sufficient robust science relating to nutrient movement in our environment to make such long term sweeping rules for the future of our agricultural industry
50	<b>Schedule C:</b> Stock Exclusion	<b>OPPOSE</b>	Amend Schedule C as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	<p>This proposal will not impose significant costs on my farming activities as all three of our farms have fully fenced water-ways, however many dry stock properties in the catchment will be severely affected.</p> <p>I am also concerned that this is not practical because many of the water-ways that have been fenced off over the past years are now overgrown with blackberry and other weeds which restrict access to these streams and rivers.</p>

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51	<b>Schedule 1:</b> Requirements for Farm Environment Plans	<b>OPPOSE</b>	Amend Schedule 1 as requested by Federated Farmers in their submission.	We are concerned that this is not practical because of the different types of farming, land use options in the catchment Region.

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