

# PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 WAIKATO AND WAIPĀ RIVER CATCHMENTS



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

Important: Save this PDF to your computer before answering.  
If you edit the original form from this webpage, your changes  
will not save. Please check or update your software to allow  
for editing. We recommend Acrobat Reader.

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

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

## 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 to one of the above addresses</i>
Emailed to	healthyivers@waikatoregion.govt.nz <i>Please Note: Submissions received by email must contain full contact details.</i>
Online at	www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/healthyivers
<b>We need to receive your submission by 5pm, 8 March 2017.</b>	

## YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS

Full name: Robert McPherson

Full address: Po Box 404 Te Puke 3153

Email: robert@aimergroup.co.nz

Phone: 027 5244944 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

## ADDRESS FOR SERVICE OF SUBMITTER

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address for service of person making submission: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

## TRADE COMPETITION AND ADVERSE EFFECTS (select appropriate)

- I ~~could~~ /  could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
- I ~~am~~ /  am not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:
- (a) adversely effects the environment, and
  - (b) does not relate to the trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

Delete entire paragraph if you could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

**THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 1 THAT MY SUBMISSION RELATES TO**

Please state the provision, map or page number e.g. Objective 4 or Rule 3.11.5.1 (Continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary).

This submission is in regards to all of the proposed Plan 1 change, not limited to Nitrogen referencing, Mapped areas + general water quality

**I SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THE ABOVE PROVISION/S**

(Select as appropriate and continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary).

- Support the above provisions
- Support the above provision with amendments
- Oppose the above provisions

**MY SUBMISSION IS THAT**

Tell us the reasons why you support or oppose or wish to have the specific provisions amended. (Please continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary).

Please refer printed copy of submission attached.

**I SEEK THE FOLLOWING DECISION BY COUNCIL**

(Select as appropriate and continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary)

- Accept the above provision
- Accept the above provision with amendments as outlined
- Decline the above provision
- If not declined, then amend the above provision as outlined

**PLEASE INDICATE BY TICKING THE RELEVANT BOX WHETHER YOU WISH TO BE HEARD IN SUPPORT OF YOUR SUBMISSION**

- I wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submissions.  
 I do not wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submissions.

**JOINT SUBMISSIONS**

- If others make a similar submission, please tick this box if you will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

**IF YOU HAVE USED EXTRA SHEETS FOR THIS SUBMISSION PLEASE ATTACH THEM TO THIS FORM AND INDICATE BELOW**

- Yes, I have attached extra sheets.  No, I have not attached extra sheets.

**SIGNATURE OF SUBMITTER**

Signature:



Date:

8.3.2017.

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.

**PLEASE CHECK** that you have provided all of the information requested and if you are having trouble filling out this form, phone Waikato Regional Council on 0800 800 401 for help.

## Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1

### Waikato and Waipa River Catchments

Submission...Support the above provision with amendments

My name is Robert McPherson. I am General Manager of Armer Farms, a family farming business with farms in the Lake Taupo and Upper Waikato catchments. Having dealt with Waikato Regional Council and nitrogen limits within the Lake Taupo Catchment over the past eight years (both pre Variation 5 and after) I wish to make a submission on the proposed plan change.

#### ***Opening statement:***

The greater Waikato Region and its people have benefited from the capital invested by farm owners on their land over the generations. This expenditure in part employs tradesmen, retail (both goods and services as well as people) and ultimately enables the employment of more staff on farms whose wages also circulates within the region to create growth.

This plan change will stop development on farms due to uncertainty over future leeching levels given the plan change has multiple targets. While we support the initial 10 year target and this could well be achieved, the following target comes at considerable cost as forecast that will solely be borne by farmers.

The reduction in allowable leeching will ultimately mean the farming sector will be less productive so as to fit within new rules and limits. Profitability will follow this decline in productivity thereby making it harder for farmers to absorb compliance costs associated with this rule as well as remaining on the land. Capital values could well drop and the Region and arguably the general economy may well decline as a result.

#### ***I propose the Plan is amended as follows:***

1...That a Plan is put forward that encompasses the entire Waikato Region including the Hauraki, Coromandel and Matamata areas. Improvement in water quality should be across all the Regions waterways not just the Waipa and Waikato.

2...That water quality is tested within each sub-area to ensure it is the sub-area that complies and not be dictated to by the entire Waikato Region's goals.

3...The leeching level as determined by the benchmarking process becomes tradeable not only within an enterprise, but between farmers. Variation 5 and the Lake Taupo Catchment has shown the benefit of tradable units which has seen marginal land retired and better land intensified while still reducing the overall impact of nitrogen within the catchment.

In summary the Plan change as it is currently written will add significant compliance costs to farmers now and on-going. It has the potential to clean up waterways which is a good thing, but at the expense of farmer equity and productivity which will have an impact on the economy of the Waikato Region and beyond.

