

SUBMISSION ON CONTACT WIND LTD AND CONTACT ENERGY LTD APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE CONSENT AND NOTICES OF REQUIREMENT

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

To: Freepost HMR Call In Minister for the Environment PO Box 10362 The Terrace Wellington 6143

OR Email: hmrcallin@mfe.govt.nz Fax: 04 439 7705

[Note: If you are emailing or faxing your submission, please mark in the subject line: 'HMR Call In']

This submission relates to the applications for resource consent and notices of requirement, lodged by Contact Wind Limited and Contact Energy Limited for the Hauāuru mā raki wind farm proposal as identified on the next page.

CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5.00 PM MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2008

Title: Mr Mrs Miss Ms (Please circle the appropriate title(s) or print clearly below)

My/Our Full Name(s): BENJAMIN BARRY & WENDY LOUISE THOMAS

Postal Address: 1159 TE AKAU RD, RD 1, NGARUAWAHIA

Work Ph: Home Ph: 07 8254824 Cell:

Work Fax: Home Fax: Email: FATSPARROW1159@HOTMAIL.COM

Please tick the relevant boxes on the next page to identify whether you are making a submission on all applications for resource consent and notices of requirement or just some of them (please identify).

Please also indicate on the back of this form (✓) whether you support, oppose, or are neutral in relation to the applications. If you are making a submission only on parts of an application for resource consent or notice of requirement, please note this when specifying the reasons for your submission.

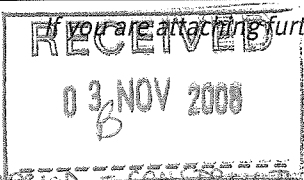
The reasons for my/our submission are:

- POTENTIAL NOISE IMPACT
- POTENTIAL VISUAL IMPACT
- POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PROPERTY VALUE
- EFFECT OF THE PROPOSED 4.5 YEAR CONSTRUCTION PERIOD
- LACK OF INFORMATION REGARDING COMMUNITY BENEFITS.

If you are attaching further information tick for yes

NOISE TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENTAL

Please use more pages if you need to.



Do you seek the following decision from the Board of Inquiry (provide precise details including the nature of any conditions sought):

PLEASE SEE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUBMITTED.

BASED ON OUR CONCERNS WE HOPE THE BOARD OF INQUIRY OPPOSES THE APPLICATION.

Please use more pages if you need to.

Use a clear tick in the appropriate box below (✓)

I/we wish to be heard in support of my/our submission (to speak at the public hearing).

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

Signature(s): [Handwritten Signature] Date: 31.10.08

(Signature of submitter, or person authorised to sign on their behalf is required. Note signature is not required for electronic (email) submissions. If this is a joint submission by two or more individuals, each individual's signature is required.)

Use the tick boxes below to indicate the called-in applications for resource consent and notices of requirement that your submission concerns. Use a clear tick in the appropriate box or boxes (✓).

I/we make my/our submission concerning all applications for resource consent and notices of requirement below

OR

My/our submission only concerns the applications for resource consent and notices of requirement that I/we have ticked below:

	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Franklin District Council – Land-use Consents			
L08052: all activities associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of a wind farm			✓
L08053: the re-opening and operation of Whitford Quarry including rock crushing and processing			✓
L08054: two concrete batching plants			✓
L08055: up to three public viewing areas (including signage) and associated parking areas			✓
L08056: improvements to local roads			✓
Franklin District Council – Notices of Requirement for Designation			
L08058: Limestone Downs Substation and ancillary facilities			✓
L08059: single circuit 220 kV transmission line linking the southern district boundary to Limestone Downs Substation			✓
L08060: double circuit 220 kV transmission line linking Limestone Downs Substation to Orton Switchyard			✓
L08057: Orton Switchyard and ancillary facilities			✓
L08061: double circuit 220 kV transmission line connecting Orton Switchyard to the existing Huntly/Otahuhu A transmission line			✓
Waikato District Council – Land-use Consents			
LUC00005/08: all activities associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of a wind farm		✓	
LUC00005/08.01: two concrete batching plants		✓	
LUC00005/08.02: improvements to local roads			✓
Waikato District Council – Notices of Requirement for Designation			
DES0012/08: Matira Substation and ancillary facilities		✓	
DES0013/08: Te Akau Substation and ancillary facilities		✓	
DES0014/08: single circuit 220 kV transmission line linking Matira and Te Akau Substations to northern district boundary		✓	
Waikato Regional Council (Environment Waikato) – Earthworks Consents			
WRC 117912: earthworks, roading and tracking associated with construction, operation and maintenance of a wind farm		✓	
WRC 118074: soil disturbance associated with re-opening and operation of the Whitford Quarry		✓	
Waikato Regional Council (Environment Waikato) – Watertake Consents			
WRC 117913: to take up to 104 m ³ water per day at a rate of up to 1.2 L/s from the Waikawau Stream		✓	
WRC 117914: to take up to 94 m ³ water per day at a rate of up to 1.1 L/s from the Kaawa Stream		✓	
WRC 117915: to take up to 79 m ³ water per day at a rate of up to 0.9 L/s from the Waikaretu Stream		✓	
WRC 117916: to take up to 96 m ³ water per day at a rate of up to 1.1 L/s from the Waikorea Stream		✓	
WRC 117920: to take up to the full flow from an unnamed spring at the Whitford Quarry		✓	
Waikato Regional Council (Environment Waikato) – Streambed Works Consents			
WRC 117921: to construct and maintain an arch culvert in a tributary to the Te Umukaraka Stream			✓
WRC 117922: to construct and maintain a culvert in a tributary to the Tauterei Stream			✓
WRC 117923: to construct and maintain a 14 m bridge over the Waimai Stream			✓
Waikato Regional Council (Environment Waikato) – Discharges Consents			
WRC 117924: to discharge process water and stormwater from the Whitford Quarry and a concrete batching plant to land and to the Waikaretu Stream		✓	
WRC 117925: to discharge process water and stormwater from three concrete plants to land		✓	
Waikato Regional Council (Environment Waikato) – Earthworks Consents			
WRC 117927: to undertake earthworks activities for the three substations, a switch yard, transmission lines, and ancillary facilities		✓	

NOTE: A copy of this submission form must also be sent to Contact Energy Limited at:

Contact Energy Limited – Hauāuru mā raki

PO Box 10742

Wellington 6143

Attention Rosemary Dixon

or email HMR@contact-energy.co.nz

or fax 04 463 9261

I/we have served a copy of my/our submission on the applicant per Section 96(4) of the RMA.



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

1159 Te Akau Rd, RD1, Ngaruawahia.

1. Having reviewed the information available in particular the articles by Geoff Leventhau (2003) and Low Frequency Noise and Infrasound from Wind Turbine Generators prepared for the EECA by Bel Acoustic Consulting (2004) the evidence suggests that the location of our house to the nearest turbine which I believe is 2km as the crow flies, we shouldn't be affected by the noise generated by the turbines however we will not know this until the turbines are in and do we have any potential for complaint at this stage. As this is not known to us we are documenting our concern for the potential noise generation that we could be exposed to as a result of this project.
2. These turbines are 100m tall with another 50m blade span on top. The nearest group of turbines are 2 km away and the before and after pictures of the wind farm located on the Contact energy page shows our house with several turbines in the background. It is very difficult to appreciate the height of these turbines are just how many will be seen from the property and as such we are documenting our concern for the potential visual impact these turbines will have.
3. I have been unable to find any concrete evidence that wind farms have significant negative impact on property prices. The sources quoted on the Contact energy page (found in the most frequently asked questions) are not all New Zealand based therefore it could be difficult to draw absolute comparisons. The EECA webpage states

"Given that wind farm development in New Zealand is still in its early stages a definitive answer cannot be given to this question. There is no evidence of property values having been devalued by the Tararua, Te Apiti or Hau Nui wind farms, or by the Brooklyn wind turbine where a large subdivision of high value housing has been built nearby"

Therefore as there is no definitive evidence either way as to the impact on property value we have to document our concern that this project could affect us financially during the construction and after the completion of the wind farm.

4. It has been quoted on the Contact energy page that the construction of the wind farm is expected to take 4.5 years. We wish to submit our concerns of the increase in road traffic and noise as we live on the road providing access to stage 2 and 3. Not only this but the use of local stream water for the concrete plants (during the summer months it can get quite dry this last summer being a strong argument for this as the Waikato region was classed as a drought region) and whether there will be a sufficient source without putting the environment under strain.
5. There is also reference that the community will benefit with investment into local amenities from the project but again there is no clear information on this and we believe this is still under negotiation with local committees. Again until this is clarified we feel there can be no support for the project until such clarification is made to ensure there is appropriate community benefit.

Following decisions from the Board.

We wish to receive sufficient reassurance that noise, visual impact, potential property values, effects on the environment and how the community will benefit are made to our satisfaction. We also wish to receive reassurance that should the wind farm go ahead and only then is it known that there is negative impact on the above items there will be a way for ourselves and others to have some method of appeal or compensation for any losses we may incur mentally, physically and financially.

We would just like to conclude by telling you a little about ourselves. We are of English origin and moved into the Te Akau area nearly 2.5 years ago. One of the main reasons for moving here was the rural location and the small population in the area. Contact energy in their webpage states that this is one of their reasons for building the wind farm here, precisely because of the rural locality and small population. Whether the area is populated by thousands or mere hundreds or whether we have a large farm and can host the turbines or a small livestock holding we all deserve the same considerations, that our concerns are heard and given due respect.