

**SUBMISSION ON CONTACT ENERGY LIMITED'S
APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENTS**

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

To: Te Mihi Call In
Minister for the Environment
P O Box 10362
The Terrace
Wellington 6143

From: Fish & Game New Zealand, Eastern Region

Submission on: Contact Energy Limited's Proposed New Geothermal Power
Station at Te Mihi, Taupo

Address: Fish & Game New Zealand, Eastern Region
Private Bag 3010
Rotorua

The specific parts of the draft that our submission relates to are:

This submission relates to all the resource consents sought by Contact Energy Limited for the construction and operation of the Te Mihi geothermal power station.

Fish & Game New Zealand, Eastern Region supports the application

The reasons for our submission are:

Fish & Game Councils were established in 1990 under a reform of the Conservation Act. We have statutory obligations under the Conservation Act to manage sports fish and game birds in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters. Nationally we represent the interests of some 190,000 people.

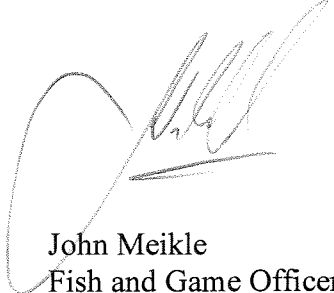
The Minister for the Environment is obliged under Section 7(h) of the Resource Management Act 1991 to “have particular regard for the protection of the habitat of trout and salmon”.

Increasing pressure is being brought to bear on the development of natural resources for electricity generation. Unfortunately this currently seems to be focussed on the development of further hydro generation sites. Naturally this potentially has significant impacts on the rivers that are dammed and on the fauna within the rivers. It is evident that alternate energy supplies exist and should be promoted to supplement existing hydro generation. This along with a more conservative approach to energy use across the country generally is likely to alleviate the short term outlook of power shortages.

It is our preference to support the development of renewable energy such as geothermal rather than further hydro developments. As such this submission is in support of this application as no fisheries or game bird resources or their habitat will be adversely affected.

We do not wish to be heard in support of our submissions.

Dated at Rotorua this 3rd day of March 2008



John Meikle
Fish and Game Officer
Fish & Game New Zealand, Eastern Region

We have served a copy of our submission on the applicant per Section 96(4) of the RMA