

Jo Daly

From: Paul Hyland [Paul.Hyland@fphcare.co.nz]
Sent: Friday, 15 February 2008 8:17 a.m.
To: TPCallin
Subject: Board of Inquiry - Upper North Island Grid Upgrade Proposal
Importance: High

Dear Sir/Madam

This proposal affects me in ways that I find utterly disgusting and degrading. That a large company and city can ride other the issues of the smaller people in the pursuit of the so called greater good. Is this the greater good of the community at the cost of the smaller community. It's not my greater good when I'm stuck in area with a house I cant sell and an area that is slipping into depravity. Is New Zealand going to be a place where the bigger the person and the louder they shout, with the thickest wallet gets there way. Or is it a place where the way of life established other generations is valued. A place where the countryside is used and appreciated by all, including those with the big wallets.

Why should we be put in this situation, is it for the greater good off Auckland and the increase of revenue to the city, this won't affect people in this area. It will affect the amount of profit the power companies make. It will increase there revenue greatly, why our economics and area collapse. Let these companies bare the cost of the expansion, in a scheme that doesn't deprive and cripple a section of the community. A community that wont receive any direct benefit but will bare the direct cost. Let them go for the more expensive option, the one that may cut into there future projected profits. Do you think that in 1, 2.3 years time these companies are going to worry about the people they have left in there wake in areas like mine. If anything they will be charging us for our power and the privilege of destroying our area, way of life and economic strength. Why should we let this happen to us???

The proposed upgrade will spoil a perfectly peaceful beautiful spot which is bountiful in wildlife and fauna. At the prospect of the build the area is already starting to decay, with those that can move out doing so. People are already taking less pride in there area and this shows when you move around the are. There is a marked difference from just 1 year ago. This area is already attracting speeding cars and vandals and crime, as people notice this slide into decay. The proposed workings will only accelerate the decline of this area socially and economically.

On a personal note I don't see why I should bear the financial loss that will make to my house. I have been trying to sell my house for a year already and I find the proposed development is the reason why most people are not making offers. I already offering for sale the house at the price I purchased it for. Why should I pay the price for greater deliverance of power and the controlling company's reluctance to seek a more expensive alternative route, such as following the highway. Let them burden the cost of my and other peoples loss. Economic circumstances are extremely difficult for people in this area already. The difficulties of weather and the economics of the country are already forcing many families to struggle. Why should these families be further burdened with negative finance on the house, economic loss and the associated depression and feeling of entrapment that comes with being stuck in a property. A property that they can not afford or afford to sell. Most of my neighbours are farmers who are struggling already. I myself are lucky enough to work and earn a non rural income. However I'm finding it hard financially already. My house value is dropping with every approaching day to the deadline and commitment of work. I'm already in a position of the house being worth less than I paid for it. If I find myself in this position , ask yourself how are other managing in there situation.

I strongly oppose this development

Paul Hyland

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