

MEETING TO DISCUSS SOCIAL SURVEY MATTERS IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED TURUTEA WIND FARM

The meeting between Dr Robert Thorne (RT) and Dr Peter Phillips (PP) was conducted by telephone on Thursday 18th June 2009 from 11.20 to 11.50 (NZ Time).

The principal purposes for the caucus was set out in an email from PP to RT on 17/6/09 which stated:

What I wanted to discuss with you was the part of your evidence that relates to generalising the results from your "Pilot Study". I can understand the value of the work as a scoping exercise, but doubt that the results can be generalised beyond the sample. I wonder if the term "pilot study" means that you plan a more extensive investigation.

I would also like to discuss the derivation of your conclusion in section H38 in relation to the alleged "tipping point". I have reviewed James Baines' evidence in which this is also mentioned and consider this result to be an artefact of the way he has interpreted the central class on his response scale.

Record of the meeting

During the discussion, RT provided background information on the purposes of the Pilot Studies and the context in which the work was undertaken. RT emphasised that the work was one step in a multi-stage research process where the concepts developed, in this case an algorithm for personal perception of sound and noise.

RT also discussed aspects of his research process related to statistical method and indicated that his thesis is open to invigilation by German and Dutch experts in the field of noise sensitivity. He indicated that it has taken time to define an appropriate protocol with such a small sample, but that his methods had been deemed fit for purpose within the focus of the research.

RT emphasised that his research was with a narrow, specific group of people selected to assist in the design of software and analysis. As such the results should not be generalised from this group to a wider population.

PP indicated that he had specific concerns in relation to the use of the term "Manawatu community" in Paragraph H38 of RT's evidence. RT indicated that this term applied only to the participants in his focus groups and not to the general population. RT

RT indicated that no approaches had been made to him about the use of his research. RT stated, that the research is for individual noise sensitivity and does not extend – at this time – to community sensitivity.

PP also raised RT's use of the term "tipping point" in Paragraph H38 of his evidence, a phrase also used by Mr Baines. RT explained that he had not been in contact with Mr Baines and the use of the term was restricted to his focus group members.

Conclusions from the meeting

The following conclusions are agreed from the meeting:

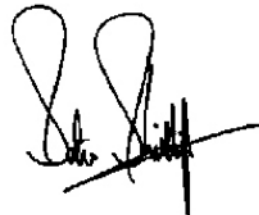
- (1) that PP's concerns that the results of the Pilot Study might be generalised from the very small sample to the wider population have been allayed by RT's clear explanation that this is not appropriate and was never intended;
- (2) that PP accepts that the use of the term "tipping point" by RT and Mr Baines was coincidental and that he had incorrectly interpreted the term "Manawatu community" to mean the general population rather than the specific group of focus group participants as RT intended.

Verification of record

The above statements are a true and accurate record of the experts' caucusing and the experts' conclusions from the meeting are truly represented in this document. The document was completed and signed on 19 June 2009.



Dr Robert Thorne



Dr Peter Phillips