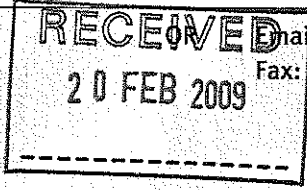


(14)

SUBMISSION ON MIGHTY RIVER POWER LTD APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE CONSENT

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

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



Email: turiteacallin@mfe.govt.nz
Fax: 04 439 7705
[Note: If you are emailing or faxing your submission, please mark in the subject line: 'Turitea Call In']

This submission relates to the applications for resource consent lodged by Mighty River Power Ltd for the Turitea Wind Farm proposal as identified on the next page.

CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5.00 PM MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2009

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

My/our Full Name(s): DULCIE MARY PARKINSON

Postal Address: 125A RUAMAHAWGA CRESCENT, PALMERSTON NORTH 4410

Work Ph: Home Ph: 06 359 1955 Cell:

Work Fax: Home Fax: Email:

Please tick the relevant boxes on the next page to identify whether you are making a submission on all applications for resource consent 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, please note this when specifying the reasons for your submission.

The reasons for my/our submission are:

If you are attaching further information tick for yes

Please see notes attached.

Please use more pages if you need to.

I/we seek the following decision from the Board of Inquiry (provide precise details including the nature of any conditions sought):

That the Board of Enquiry deny absolutely consent to this particular application and place a moratorium on all wind development pending an outcome to the points raised in my submission, especially Nos 6, 7 & 8

Please use more pages if you need to.

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

I/we wish to be heard in respect 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): D. Parkinson.

Date: 18-02-09

(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.)



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatu Mo Te Taiao

Use the tick boxes below to indicate the called-in applications for resource consent 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 below

OR
My/our submission only concerns the applications for resource consent that I/we have ticked below:

	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Manawatu-Wanganui (Horizons) Regional Council – Land-use Consents			
104553: for vegetation clearance and land disturbance in rare or threatened habitats, near streams and on highly erodible land throughout the general wind farm site.		✓	
104554: for the construction of a double culvert in an un-named tributary of the Kahuterawa Stream as shown on the included map.		✓	
Manawatu-Wanganui (Horizons) Regional Council – Discharge Permits			
104555: for the discharge of dust to air from the concrete batching plants to be located as generally shown on the included map.		✓	
104556: for the discharge of dust to air from the mobile crushing plant throughout the general wind farm site.		✓	
104557: for the discharge of wastewater from two operations and maintenance facilities to land to be located as generally shown on the included map.		✓	
104558: for the discharge of stormwater from substations to land to be located as generally shown on the included map.		✓	
104559: for the discharge of cleanfill to land in the form of spoil disposal sites throughout the general wind farm site.		✓	
104560: for the discharge of stormwater from roads, turbine platforms and other areas to land.		✓	
Palmerston North City Council – Land-use Consents			
RC0068: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to establish and operate a wind farm in the areas within the Palmerston North city jurisdiction as generally shown on the included map to undertake earthworks associated with tracking and roading, turbine construction and associated buildings in the areas within the Palmerston North city jurisdiction as generally shown on the included map for the western side of Pahiatua Aokautere Road not meeting access requirements at the location shown on the included map for the storage of diesel (10,000 L) in bunded areas outside the Turitea water supply catchment, generally located at the two substation laydown areas shown on the included map, that exceeds the 0.2 effects ratio maximum in the rural zone for the construction of a 220 kV electricity transmission line and substations as shown on the included map. 		✓	
Tararua District Council – Land-use Consents			
1448: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for a wind farm (which is not listed as a permitted or controlled activity) in the areas within the Tararua District as generally shown on the included map for land disturbance of more than 200 m³ of soil and cleanfill material associated with tracking and roading, turbine construction, spoil disposal and other associated works in the areas within the Tararua District as generally shown on the included map for upgrades to South Range Road and the construction of new site access at the location shown on the included map for turbine and wind monitoring mast structures not meeting height requirements within the Tararua District for the modification of a Significant Natural Feature in Schedule 3.3 (ie, Tararua Ranges Ridgeline) for not meeting noise requirements for clearance of indigenous vegetation in the areas within the Tararua District as generally shown on the included map. 		✓	

NOTE: A copy of this submission form MUST also be sent to Mighty River Power Ltd at:

Freepost – MRP
Mighty River Power Ltd
PO Box 445
Hamilton 3240
Attention: Stephanie Froggatt

Or email turitea@mightyriver.co.nz or fax (07) 857 0192

I/we have sent a copy of my/our submission to Mighty River Power Ltd as per Section 96(4) of the RMA.



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

New Zealand Government

- 1) The Turitea Reserve has been set aside as a secure remnant of an outstanding native and national ecosystem.

It is one of relatively few pristine areas of bush in the vicinity, which has been set aside as a reserve so that it should be preserved unsullied for posterity.

Building a windfarm in the Turitea Reserve would therefore set a precedent for the industrialisation and commercialisation of any other reserve in the country, regardless of their environmental/ecological importance. This is completely unacceptable in a country that purports to be 'clean and green'.

- 2) The environmental impact of the proposed windfarm has been grossly underestimated/understated. Turbines are unsightly, intrusive (they can be seen for many kilometres) and cause an unwarranted industrialisation of the landscape.

Turbines detract from the (hitherto) unspoilt beauty of the rural environment, to the detriment of locals and tourists alike

- 3) The noise pollution that arises from turbines has been misrepresented. Areas within the noise zone of the turbines resemble the take-off path of an airport.

More importantly, native bird life is notably diminished in local areas within the noise pollution zone of the turbines (notably the Manawatu Gorge). As many native birds are already endangered, anything that causes further risk to their survival is irresponsible.

- 4) The Turitea Reserve has been specifically used as a catchment area to safeguard the water supply for Palmerston North, to ensure the cleanness and quality of the city's water.

Building a windfarm in the reserve would result in very substantial disturbance to that catchment area (e.g. during road-building and erection of concrete plinths). This would, without doubt, seriously jeopardise the integrity of the city's water supply.

Moreover, the catchment area within the Reserve is regarded as being so fragile, that the public is barred from regular access to it. This, being well-established by precedent, makes it unfathomable how anyone could suggest that the earthworks etc., necessary to establish a windfarm would not have a massively detrimental effect upon the integrity of the water catchment area.

- 5) The hazards associated with wind turbines have been totally ignored. A cursory perusal of the international literature regarding windfarms shows them to be at high risk of fire and collapse (e.g. in earthquake or storms). Should a fire occur in one of the proposed turbines (or, rather, when such a fire occurs), it would jeopardise the whole bush reserve and risk causing irreversible pollution to the water-supply catchment area.
- 6) Turbines are an inefficient means of generating electricity, particularly in relation to their negative impact upon the environment. Consequently, there needs to be an evaluation, at a national level, through democratic processes, to determine whether wind turbines have any role in power generation in New Zealand, and whether the amount of electricity they produce is commensurate with the environmental destruction that they cause.
- 7) It is also inappropriate to deal with Resource Consents for windfarms on the current piecemeal basis. Rather, there needs to be a national consideration (again, through democratic process), to determine what, if any, specific areas in the country are suitable for wind generation, so that piecemeal development of windfarms cannot take place outside these designated areas.
- 8) The provision of alternative sources of power (e.g. subsidised solar panels to householders) would obviate the necessity for such environmentally-destructive forms of power-generation as windfarms.