

# SUBMISSION ON MIGHTY RIVER POWER LTD APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE CONSENT

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

<b>To:</b> Freepost Call In Ministry for the Environment PO Box 10362 The Terrace Wellington 6143	<b>RECEIVED</b> 20 FEB 2009	<b>Email:</b> turiteacallin@mfe.govt.nz <b>Fax:</b> 04 439 7705 [Note: If you are emailing or faxing your submission, please mark in the subject line: 'Turitea Call In']
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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):**    ALAN THORNTON

**Postal Address:**        39 Guyland DR R.D. 4 Palmerston North

**Work Ph:**                      Home Ph: 06 3540724    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 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):

To turn down this application from mighty river power for a resource consent to build windmills

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):**    A Thornton                      **Date:** 16-2-09

(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.)

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	Support	Oppose	Neutral
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	Support	Oppose	Neutral
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	Support	Oppose	Neutral
RC0068: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to establish and operate a wind farm in the areas within the Palmerston North city jurisdiction as generally shown on the included map</li> <li>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</li> <li>for the western side of Pahiatua Aokautere Road not meeting access requirements at the location shown on the included map</li> <li>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</li> <li>for the construction of a 220 kV electricity transmission line and substations as shown on the included map.</li> </ul>			
Tararua District Council – Land-use Consents	Support	Oppose	Neutral
1448: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> <li>for land disturbance of more than 200 m<sup>3</sup> 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</li> <li>for upgrades to South Range Road and the construction of new site access at the location shown on the included map</li> <li>for turbine and wind monitoring mast structures not meeting height requirements within the Tararua District</li> <li>for the modification of a Significant Natural Feature in Schedule 3.3 (ie, Tararua Ranges Ridgeline)</li> <li>for not meeting noise requirements</li> <li>for clearance of indigenous vegetation in the areas within the Tararua District as generally shown on the included map.</li> </ul>			

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](mailto: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**

A. Thornton,  
39 Guyland Drive,  
Ngahere Park,  
R.D.4.  
Palmerston North  
(06) 3540724

14th February 2009

Dear Sir,

I wish to oppose the Resource Consents lodged by Mighty River Power Ltd, for a wind farm in the Turitea Valley and surrounding hills.

My self and my wife Rosemary are living at Ngahere Park. Our ages are 57-61 and are semi retired. We have lived on our five acre block for four years and have enjoyed the peacefulness of the valley. If Mighty River Power have their way we will be within two kms of the closest site. Mighty River Power have taken montage photos from our deck which were to be available for us for this submission but no photos have been supplied so far. We love the wide expansive views we have from our deck. We can see Ruapahu, Feilding, Whariti and beyond. We live in the shadow of Bryant Hill.

The biggest problem is that some of these windmill sites are far to close to all ready established homes. I reckon there could be as many as 100 homes, within a two km range of a windmill site, especially sites 74 to 88. These windmills are at 125mts high and bigger than those at Te Apiti and much closer to housing. The constant droning noise and land vibrations would be unbearable and cause problems to health. E.g. sleep deprivation, inability to concentrate. Health problems like these are well documented.

Perhaps even worse when the wind blows from the south - or south east, turning the windmill blades to face that way, it lets the noise flow directly towards Turitea Valley and of course Palmerston North city.

Another thing not considered is the strobe effect that would happen from these sites. In essence, especially in winter the sun would rise from behind these sites and a strobe effect will be created with the sun shining through the turning blades of the windmills. This of course would be seen in Palmerston North city as well as the Turitea Valley areas, obviously making driving very hazardous for the people driving from town to Massey University. The same could happen in the evening when the full moon rises behind the windmills.

A 14 km long power station does not sound good and will ruin a 'significant natural feature'. The views from the city will be lost.

Eco Park. This was touted as a big thing when changing the Reserve rules to allow windmills. I see it doesn't feature in this application.

It's a big con. I have what I think is Mighty River Powers definition of a Eco Park.

"Land set aside for the construction and operation of windmills. Plus a system of roadways suitable for large vehicles".

Not what people would like to see in a Eco Park. The only difference between the reserve we have now and the one given to the council is that Mighty River Powers Eco park will have noisy and visually unattractive windmills in it. All this and Palmerston Norths water supply is right in the middle of it. Land clearance, noise, not meeting height requirements, diesel storage, discharge of contaminants, etc making this not a safe place to take water from. Real problems. Council and Mighty River Power have opened 'Pandoras Box' here.

The board of inquiry must turn down Mighty River Power Ltds request for resource consent for this wind farm. All this is a potential health problem for Palmerston North city and its water supply.

Yours faithfully



