

SUBMISSION ON MIGHTY RIVER POWER LTD APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE CONSENT

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

RECEIVED

20 FEB 2009

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): PHILIP GEORGE HENRY PEARCE

Postal Address: 35 CARTER CRESCENT, AWAPUNI, PALMERSTON NORTH 4412

Work Ph: _____ Home Ph: (06) 354 6687 Cell: 027 240 8988

Work Fax: _____ Home Fax: as above Email: phil.pearce@inspire.net.nz

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

That a wind farm within the Turitea Reserve would spoil a beautiful native bush area and may have an adverse effect to the Palmerston North water supply.

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 wind turbines be excluded from the Turitea Reserve.

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): *Phil Pearce*

Date: 17/2/09

(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.)



Ministry for the Environment
Manatū 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

	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:

Freeport – 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.

ATTACHMENT. *Philip George Henry Pearce.*

1. I have deep concern for the future of the Turitea Reserve, a large area of native bush close to Palmerston North providing habitat for native birds and other fauna as well as being a very important catchment area for the city water supply.
2. If consent should be given to Mighty River Power, a Government SOE, to build up to 66 wind turbines within this reserve the whole character of the area will be completely destroyed and much of the flora and fauna with it. It can not help but become a large scale industrial site. It will be visually unattractive and noisy. The 125 meter high turbines will dominate.
3. Wind turbines in areas where there is little environmental damage are certainly a good method of producing sustainable power, but not within a native bush reserve.
4. Other methods of producing environmentally friendly power are being researched, ocean wave energy being one example that looks promising. There may be better ways in the future and MRP should not be able to rush in and largely destroy a valuable natural asset without further research and appraisal.
5. I question what effect the proposed turbines would have on native bird life and reproduction, to my knowledge this has not been researched. We know that people find close wind turbines very upsetting from noise and vibration. How would the birds and other fauna be affected? The turbines would be right among them and there would also be bird strike with turbine blades travelling at several hundred kilometres per hour at the blade tips.
6. I also have a concern about public health. A number of years ago I had a permit to hunt deer and goats in the Turitea Reserve. To obtain the permit I had to have a medical to show that I was not a carrier of giardia or other disease that could infect the city water supply. Obviously this requirement could not be met with the number of workers involved in the construction and servicing of such a large project as wind farm within the Turitea Reserve.
7. I question how much extra electric power New Zealand needs in the short to medium term. With a slowing economy and an obsolete transmission network that provides unreliable power to Auckland in particular, extra generation has dubious benefits. More can be done in economising usage and financial encouragement for the installation of solar panels and house insulation.

PGH Pearce



