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# 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

RECEIVED  
23 FEB 2009

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): Richard Geoffrey Day & Wendy Kathryn Day

Postal Address: 11 Kendalls Lane Rd 4, Palmerton North

Work Ph: (06) 350 9147 Home Ph: (06) 325 8549 Cell: 0274 165 803

Work Fax: Home Fax: Email: Wendy.day@midcentraldhb.govt.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

- We oppose all requests for resource consent due to:
- potential health hazards for local community
  - Visual impact and loss of amenity
  - Excessive damage to environment and ecosystem.

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 all resource consent applications be turned down.

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): Wendy Day RS Day

Date:

(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
<b>Manawatu-Wanganui (Horizons) Regional Council – Land-use Consents</b>			
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.		✓	
<b>Manawatu-Wanganui (Horizons) Regional Council – Discharge Permits</b>			
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.			✓
<b>Palmerston North City Council – Land-use Consents</b>			
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>		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	
<b>Tararua District Council – Land-use Consents</b>			
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:

Freeport – 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**

## **Submission Opposing Mighty River Power Application for Resource Consent**

Submitters: Wendy & Richard Day  
11 Kendalls Line RD 4  
Palmerston North

We oppose the Mighty River Power Application for Resource Consent to locate up to 122 wind turbines in the Tararua Ranges. Neither of us are civil engineers or environmental scientists, we are simply people who have chosen to live in a rural setting. However we have both lived in the Palmerston North area for the vast majority of our lives and believe that this makes us experts about what it is like to live within this community.

We are concerned about the lack of benefit and poor risk benefit ration for residents. Also the lack of government and council protection of the rights of residents in relation to the seemingly constant requests for wind farm development. The lack of government standards for this type of development is a huge concern. It is beginning to feel like it is a constant battle to preserve the appearance of the ranges and our quality of life as residents of a rural community. Having already been through this type of process we believe that it is time clear guidelines for this type of project are developed. These guidelines need to reflect and preserve the rights of the residents and local community.

In relation to the location of the turbines near Kahuterawa road Turitea road and in the Turitea reserve, we do not believe that the location or excessive numbers of turbines will benefit the local community. It is our opinion that the councils and government have an obligation to protect and act for the community. We are concerned about the detrimental effects that such large earthworks will have on the Turitea Reserve and surrounding farm land. The purpose of having a reserve is to preserve the landscape and wildlife, we believe that this application breaches that purpose. As residents we are extremely concerned about the cumulative visual effect of the wind turbines. This effect will result in a great loss of amenity for us. We chose to purchase a property in Kendalls line because of the rural nature of the area, the relative lack of city noise and the stunning views of the ranges.

Having lived for many years with a quarry at the end of our road we are also extremely concerned about the councils ability to monitor and police resource consents, as this has clearly not happened in relation to the quarry. It appears that it doesn't matter what is proposed in the actual consent, the reality can be very different, as proven repeatedly by the quarry. There are a large number of aspects of the quarry resource consent that have not been met including mitigation of dust, measure to prevent pollution of the stream and the removal of protected trees. Although the quarry is not directly related to the wind farm proposal we believe that our experiences of the management of the resource consent for the quarry are relevant.

We also feel sorry for any residents of access roads leading to and from the wind farm site as we know from personal experience that having lots of large trucks on the road by houses will drastically alter aspects of their lifestyle as it has ours. We cannot let our children ride their bikes or walk down the road. We live in a rural setting with city traffic and no city amenities to protect us such as foot paths. The trucks run early in the morning waking us up and they drive fast putting us and our neighbours at risk.

In relation to the earth works application it is clear from our experience that information in the consent application does not necessarily reflect what will actually happen. For example the quarry consent said that 20,000 metric tons of large rock would be removed. However there is published evidence (Country Wide Magazine) that 80,000 tons of large rock has been removed. Therefore we are concerned about the extent and effect of the proposed earth works on the ranges and the potential for excessive damage to the local environment and ecosystem.

While we agree that renewable energy is important for all New Zealanders, there are other sources of renewable energy that do not require blotting the landscape with wind turbines. Solar power is an option the government could explore before developing strategies such as wind farms that detract from and damage our local environment. We do not believe that wind farms should be common place in the Manawatu skyline until strategies are put in place through the correct consultation process. We value the current unique landscape of the ranges and do not wish to see it altered by the addition of multiple wind turbines. Existing turbines create enough visual effect, we certainly don't need more!

In conclusion, we fail to see what real benefit this wind farm will have for our local community. We will not benefit from reductions in the cost of electricity, carbon credits or, the vast majority of us, from the limited job prospects. Yet we have to put up with unknown health risks, the potential for increased noise and the spoiling of the beautiful mountain ranges we live beside. We believe that when any possible benefits to the community are weighed against the potential negative effects, consent should not be granted for this project.