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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): STEPHEN KENNETH WILFRED LANG

Postal Address: 297 KAHUTERAWA ROAD, RD 4, PALMERSTON NORTH

Work Ph: 06 3513379 Home Ph: 06 3565546 Cell: 021 054 3595

Work Fax: Home Fax: Email: s.k.Lang@massey.ac.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: to oppose because If you are attaching further information tick for yes
adverse visual impact; adverse sound impact; inadequate information; contravention of the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi; no 'carbon footprint' calculation or any other comprehensive measure of environmental cost; adverse safety concerns; significant disruption to living standards short, medium and long term; denudation 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 reject outright the resource consent lodged by Mighty River Power Ltd for the Turitea Wind farm proposal.

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): [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 17:02:09

(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.)



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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.



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

New Zealand Government

Submission on Mighty River Power Ltd, Application for Resource Consent.

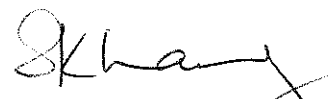
Attachment to my Submission in answer to “the reasons for my submission are;”

I am opposing MRP Application on the following grounds and I would like to be able to read my full submission at the Environment Court, at which point I will expand on all the following reasons for my opposing submission.

I intend to describe in detail to the Court what the effect of this proposed windfarm will have on the quality of life that I presently enjoy in my home. Having read through the information provided by MRP and by the Council I am deeply concerned about the impact this wind power electricity generation station will have not only on me and my family, but on the whole of the region in general.

When I speak on my submission at The Environment Court, I will talk about the following issues;

- **The visual impact on the environment.** The potential adverse visual effect of this wind power electricity generation station, will seriously contribute to a negative cumulative visual impact on the whole of the region’s landscape. That the Tararua range, and the Turitea Reserve, are special features to the region; that they form a unique part of the backdrop to our city. I will describe in detail and provide photographic evidence of the impact of the wind power electricity generation station on myself and my property. The visual impact on the city and the approach to our city.
- **The size of the proposed turbines and the scale of the wind power electricity generation station** is extraordinary, even by world standards. When added to existing and proposed wind power electricity generation stations the complete horizon will be littered with moving objects that will destroy the peace and serenity of the landscape. This will adversely affect my own stress levels by removing a relaxing aspect from my daily life.
- The resource consent application makes reference to the desirability of electricity by wind power however nowhere does the applicant make any assessment of the **carbon footprint** generated by the power station construction, running, maintenance or decommissioning. Without this vital information I cannot make an informed decision on the viability of the project. I understand trees to be an essential part of the absorption of carbon dioxide and major producers of oxygen and yet the proposal entails the removal of at least 24 hectares of native bush. This issue is unaddressed by the application and this represents a worrying flaw in the proposal.



- The **environmental effect** this wind power electricity generation station will have on bird species and other species which live in this area. The proposal contains no research on the flora and fauna of the region, and no ornithological experts have been asked for their view on the impact turbine blades have on bird populations. There are many native species in the area whose habitats we are charged with protecting in line with it being designated a Reserve. A Reserve should conserve, to destroy habitat is contrary to the spirit of the covenants that created the Reserve, to perform such destruction without even doing an assessment of what is to be lost is scandalous and causes me much disturbance.
- The **potential impact of noise**. I will speak of the lack of conclusive information on this subject and ask how permission for the building of such a large wind power electricity generation station can be granted when there is a worrying lack of reassuring evidence. I will speak of my concerns regarding the proposed acceptable decibel readings for the turbines. How I think the evidence for such acceptance is in need of review and I ask if it is appropriate for a rural setting, especially at night. I will speak about my concerns of the cumulative impact of 122 120 metre turbines, and critique MRP Ltd data as they compile single turbine effects data only.
- I have **not been provided with any data** by MRP Ltd on what the turbines will look like from my property. I am left to perform a very complicated trajectory assessment without the adequate contouring data that makes this possible with any accuracy. Certainly not with the maps and layouts provided. I am therefore being asked to give uninformed consent and this is intolerable and unjust.
- I am concerned about the lack of **consultation with local iwi**, and the disturbing shortcoming of not holding proper consultation as implied by the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi. As a Treaty partner I need to be involved with my Treaty partner, in this case the Rangitane iwi, in decisions that have implications for both parties. The numerous Treaty workshops the Government has seen fit to provide for the public suggests that consultation and discourse is the honourable action. This has not taken place and I am struggling to look my neighbour in the eye. This has already caused disturbance and displeasure, were the proposal to go ahead even more damage will be done to Treaty relationships. Let us not pay lip service to something so vital to our future well being.
- The **potential impact on the safety** and convenience of myself, my family, my immediate community and citizens of Palmerston North, around the use of Kahuterawa Rd, due to the fact that it will be used as an access road to development of the southern end of the wind power electricity generation station. I will show evidence of the narrow road (less than 5500mm in places) which has a 100 km per hour rating. The prospect of earthmoving trucks passing each other at combined speeds of 200k per hour with a clearance of less than 500mm is

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disturbing. This is a road which carries cyclists to the very popular Back Track and walkers to the council's much lauded Sledge Track. MRP Ltd bases its safety assessment on old data (collected 2004) long before various house builds and subdivisions. Some of these house builds are currently underway which apart from a rise in occupancy numbers also increases workforce traffic and lifestyle block maintenance. Three cars have run off the road into ditches within the last 6 months, I fear that further increases in usage will cause major accidents. I am also concerned that delays on the road will severely compromise residents and workers travel times.

- I am worried and sleepless already in part from the anxiety produced by MRP Ltd's **shoddy information**. Such as maps that are so small and feint that they can't be read even with a magnifying glass and data like the impact on drivers on the Pahiatua Track (a road I regularly use) of approaching several tons of spinning blades with high angular velocities (note: turbine speeds are not provided in the data) and comparing this experience to the effect of passing an advertising hording. There are so many examples of similar poor judgement that I can have no confidence in MRP Ltd to be fully advising the public and I remain consequently needing to err on the side of caution and oppose what I am not adequately enabled to approve. Surely the residents of Palmerston North should be able to make informed decisions. No court or judge can settle for less.

