

561

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
OR
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): ROBIN LAWLER

Postal Address: 7 LACEBARK DRIVE R.D.4. PALMERSTON NORTH

Work Ph: 021 591 192 Home Ph: 06 353 789 Cell: 021 591 192

Work Fax: Home Fax: Email: FOXGLOVEFARM@INSPIRENET.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

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):

NO HEAVY VEHICLE ACCESS FROM KAHUTERAWA ROAD/GREENS ROAD
~~REDUCTION~~ REDUCTION IN NOISE LEVELS ALLOWED
NO TURBINES ON PROMINENT RIDGELINES

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): [Signature] Date: 10/2/09

(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

	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

Dear Sir/madam,

Firstly i would like to introduce myself, my name is Robin Lawler and I have been living in the Kahuterawa Valley for approximately 26 years. I currently own a subdivision in the valley (foxglove Farm Ltd).

Through my development i am keenly aware of environmental effects and the need to mitigate these as much as possible. After reading MRP reports i feel they have done a very good job of mitigating most detrimental aspects of their proposed wind farm development, there are however a few that i have picked up on that will adversely affect the local community as well as the wider population within the Palmerston North district and beyond.

They are as follows;

1/ TRAFFIC

Greens road and Kahuterawa Road are zoned by the council as local access roads, This reflects their character as they are picturesque and quite narrow in places unsuitable for large scale development.

These roads have blind corners and are one lane and unsealed with steep sections in some places.

Over time these areas have become recreational resources for many Manawatu people with national events for mountain biking being held in the area.

Due to the increased awareness of the area more and more people are using the Kahuterawa/Greens road/Tiritea road/SH57 loop for their recreation by walking running and biking.

The proposal to allow 120 truck and trailer movements on Kahuterawa/Greens road per day is one that troubles a lot of local residents, with this level of traffic there will be a high probability of a serious accident due to the nature of the road and the level of cyclists and runners that use the road

on a daily basis.

Even with a traffic management plan in place this would not remedy the dangerous nature of the road in some places and is therefore completely unsuitable for use in this development.

MRP Have alternative much safer access points for their development off the Pahiatua Track and should be made to use these instead of the kahuterawa/greens road option.

2/ NOISE GENERATION

It is wrong to inflict a noise level of 40 dba at the boundary of a property that could potentially last 24 hours a day for long periods of time. we need more stringent guidelines imposed to safeguard nearby residents.

3/LOSS OF LANDSCAPE AMENITY VALUE

As identified in reports to the council the Tararua range and its prominent ridge lines have immense natural beauty and amenity value to manawatu residents and the placement of turbines on these prominent ridgelines completely destroys the visual beauty of the area. For some residents in the tiritea valley area the visual impact is very substantial.

Summing up i feel that the noise and traffic issues that i have highlighted need to be addressed before this project could proceed safely. Sadly there is little that can be done to rectify the visual impact to residents other than to stop development on particually visually prominent areas, this would require the deletion of a substantial part of the development probably making it uneconomic for MRP to proceed.

I feel that the manawatu has already lost a large portion of prominent skyline to wind turbine development and this development right on the citys doorstep is a step too far, the impact from this development is far more intrusive than any previous wind farms to date due to its location and size. I am therefore against the granting of a consent for the operation of a wind farm to mighty River Power.