

# 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	<b>RECEIVED</b> OR <b>23 FEB 2009</b>	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']
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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): HARLEY EOWEN JAMES

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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

SUBMISSION IS CONTAINED ON THE ATTACHED  
WORD DOCUMENT.

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):

AS ABOVE

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: 23/02/09

(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.)

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:

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**  
Minatū Mō Te Taiao

New Zealand Government

**The reasons for my submission are:**

1. In 2003 I purchased a 45 acre block of land in the Turitea Valley with the aim of developing it into a lifestyle block for my family. This block of land is situated closely to the proposed sites for the Wind Turbines, which can be seen in the attached picture. This submission outlines that I object to the Mighty River Power wind farm proposal.

2. The land I own is in a beautiful and quiet part of the countryside which is the primary reason why we bought in the Turitea Valley. That so much vegetation will be removed/destroyed and that the development (and end state) activities will adversely impact on a picturesque reserve undermines the very reason the reserve was established. Apart from the clear visual and ecological impacts the proposed development impacts my personal appreciation of the area – the prime reason we own property in this area.

3. There were a number of reasons why we own land in the Turitea valley and that contribute to the value we place in the land. That it is nestled amongst a beautiful landscape and that this particular quiet and beautiful location can be found within such close proximity to Palmerston North is unique. If the proposed wind farm is to proceed the very reasons we acquired this land are undermined and is unacceptable in the sense that we pay our annual fees in order to maintain the quality of the district and our land.

4. Based on the information I currently have on the proposed wind farm I have the following main concerns.

- (a) The proximity of the proposed turbines to my land (230m – 1.5km) and the associated noise pollution these will create.
- (b) The environmental impact on the existing landscape and vegetation in the Turitea Valley – during both development and ongoing.

4. The proximity of the wind farm to our land has caused great concern about the potential negative impact on the health of my young children due to the proximity of our land to the wind turbines. On further research, I noticed the Mighty River Power website has information indicating some turbines initially proposed have been reviewed and subsequently deleted due to proximity to existing residential properties.

5. Clearly they are therefore admitting wind turbines have a negative impact on health and should not be erected within close proximity to residences. The fact they are planning to erect a turbine a mere 230m from land zoned rural/residential is therefore surprising, and I wonder how this is permitted by the council when considering the Resource Management Act and the impact of development proposals like this on the public. Does this mean that when/if I request building consent on my land that it will be denied based on potential health risks?

6. The attached picture indicates the location of my property and also the house site that has been cleared. It clearly shows the proposed turbines 74-

78 and 82-90 all lie within approximately 1.5km from the house site, with the closest being a mere 230m from the boundary.

7. Research has shown there are a multitude of negative effects on health and well-being caused by living within 2 km of wind turbines. Numerous articles and papers have been written by medical professionals around the world. Whilst there is no national standard in New Zealand, the US and UK have established limits for wind turbines with respect to their proximity to residential land. In the UK, the standard is 1.6km, whilst in the USA it is 2.5km.

8. Under the current proposal, Mighty River Power intends to build wind turbines at less than 1km from land zoned rural/residential that I own. Whilst I support the concept of a wind farm for power generation, erecting turbines on land in such close proximity to residential areas seems extremely harmful to the community and is of great concern to this ratepayer.

**I seek the following decisions from the Board of Inquiry:**

a. That the proposed Mighty River Power wind farm development be stopped due to the negative impact it will have on residents' health, the landscape and existing vegetation.

b. If the wind farm is to proceed, at the very least remove all turbines from the proposal that are within 2km of rural/residential zoned land.

c. The final and last option is to compensate the land owners (acceptable to land owners) for lost property value and enjoyment in land that are within the vicinity of the proposed development. I believe if the proposal goes ahead as it stands, I would lose a considerable amount of money as my land would become un-inhabitable.

Harley James

