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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 OR Email: turiteacallin@mfe.govt.nz  
 Ministry for the Environment Fax: 04 439 7705  
 PO Box 10362 [Note: If you are emailing or faxing your submission,  
 The Terrace please mark in the subject line: 'Turitea Call In']  
 Wellington 6143

RECEIVED  
23 FEB 2009

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): Sally Lorraine Pearce

Postal Address: 7 Maheke Avenue, Palmerston North

Work Ph: 063550126 Home Ph: 063594326 Cell:

Work Fax: Home Fax: Email: Sally.l.pearce@yahoo.com

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: See a separate sheet  
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):  
That the Board of Inquiry rejects the applications by MPR for Resource Consents for the proposed wind farms in the Turitea Reserve and surrounding area  
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): Sally Pearce Date: 23/2/09

(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
<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>2</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](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**  
Māngai Mō Te Taiao

New Zealand Government

I am a member of Forest and Bird and as part of Forest and Bird I am also the coordinator for the restoration of some native bush on family land near Mangaweka. I am opposed to proposal to construct wind farms within and near to the Turitea Reserve as I believe it will significantly damage the natural character of the reserve.

## **Issues affecting the Natural Character of the Reserve:**

### **1. Biodiversity**

This is by far the largest area of bush in the Palmerston North City area and it has the potential to become an increasingly area significant habitat for native flora and fauna. Although bush has already been damaged by human impact, especially through the proliferation of browsing animals such as deer and possums, improved control of these species in recent decades has already resulted in significant recovery.

The construction of a wind farm will result in masses of heavy traffic into the reserve, major earthworks and the clearance of significant amounts of native vegetation. I believe it is likely that ongoing further damage to remaining vegetation will continue due to the resulting exposure to wind and other elements.

I also believe that bringing vehicles into the reserve and opening up the landscape will greatly increase the amount of invasive weeds in the reserve. In the project I am involved with, I have seen first hand the impact that disturbing the ground can have upon the proliferation of weeds.

I believe it is risky to place wind turbines in an area where we intend to improve the habitat of (and therefore encourage) native birds. To my knowledge this has not been done before in NZ. We do not know how great an impact this will have on wildlife. In my experience many of the larger native birds such as tui and wood pigeon often fly between areas of bush in search of food – how many of these birds will be struck by turbine blades? Does anybody really know?

Mainland islands have been created in other parts of New Zealand without the need for an accompanying industrial wind farm to provide funding. There are other options for funding the ecological enhancement of the Reserve.

### **2. Landscape**

As a resident of 32 years in an otherwise flat landscape my favourite view in daily walks is that of the bush covered slopes of the Turitea Reserve on the Tararua Ranges. I consider these slopes and ridgelines beautiful and they are important to my sense of belonging to this place. I believe they are very significant landscapes within this area.

### **Water Supply:**

I have concerns about the impact of possible erosion from the construction process upon the City's water supply

### **Environmental Sustainability Issues:**

I support moves towards renewable energy, including the use of wind farms, as one part of the sustainable energy equation. I do not believe that means we need to erect wind farms in every location where the wind blows hard. Other environmental values such as biodiversity need to be considered too.

Other exciting options exist for green energy - for example harnessing biogas. There is potential to invest locally in research and innovations that could both reduce discharges into waterways and harness energy. Investment in energy efficiency measures is also important – there is a lot more that could be done here. We do not need to start building wind farms in nature reserves!