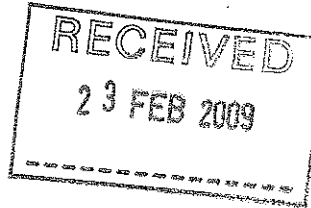


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Kim Morgan

From: Loveday, Simon [S.Loveday@massey.ac.nz]
Sent: Monday, 23 February 2009 4:23 p.m.
To: TuriteaCallin
Cc: turitea@mightyriver.co.nz
Subject: Turitea Call In



Simon Loveday
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Awapuni
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I make my submission concerning ALL applications for resource consents submitted by Mighty River Power in regard to the proposed Turitea windfarm.

I am neutral, being neither for nor against the resource consents.

I do not wish to be heard in respect of my submission, and hereby make my submission in writing only.

I came to Palmerston North in 2001 to begin working on a PhD at Massey University, and began working as a food scientist at Massey after completing my study, so have lived here for 8 years.

In seeking detailed scientific and engineering information I have tried to download the consent documents from MRP's website this week but they were unavailable. Physical copies of consent documents are available in council offices only between 8am and 5pm, which has made it difficult for me to view them (Massey is about 10 km from the city centre).

Having not read the consent documents, I acknowledge that my submission is not informed by detailed knowledge of the consent.

However I would like to comment on the manner in which the debate about the wind farm consent has been conducted in the local media, and impact that may have had on local opinion.

The Turitea wind farm proposal has been very contentious among the public of Palmerston North. The local papers have contained many strongly-worded letters to the editor for or against the proposal. The Guardian newspaper of Sunday 15 February contained a full page advertisement from anti-wind farm lobby group 'Enuff', which featured sensational and factually dubious headlines including "Large tracts of the Turitea Reserve destroyed" and "City's water quality endangered by sedimentation". Earlier this year and late last year Mighty River Power placed advertisements in local papers with their side of the story.

It is hard to tell whether the vehement and sometimes misinformed opposition to the windfarm represents a majority opinion or a vocal minority. In any case, the debate conducted in the local media has become quite confused, and it is hard to know what impact vested interests have had on the information presented and the positions people have adopted. The present extraordinary economic situation may also have influenced the opinion of local councillors and owners of land in the affected areas.

Perhaps one factor clouding the debate is the unknown impact of the 140 wind turbines for which consent has been granted but which are not yet built.

I would like the board to consider a temporary moratorium on the granting of further consents for wind turbines and associated works, until the currently-consented turbines are built or 3 years have elapsed. This would allow the impacts of the new

turbines to be better understood, and may mitigate the influence of the current economic situation on public opinion.

I thank the board for considering my submission and wish them well.

Simon M. Loveday PhD