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Sent: Thursday, 30 October 2008 4:31 p.m.
To: Renewable Electricity
Subject: renewable energy sub.

Form 3
**Submission on proposal for national policy statement for
renewable electricity generation**

In accordance with section 49 of the Resource Management Act 1991

To the Chairperson
Board of Inquiry

This is a submission on the (following) proposed national policy statement for renewable electricity generation (the proposal) that was publicly notified on 6 September 2008.

The specific provisions of the proposal that our submission relates to are:

[give details]

1. While we support the concept of renewable electricity generation and the general policies, we consider that there is not enough consideration given in the policies to the protection of our natural places and species. New Zealand's energy needs should be met with minimal impacts on indigenous species, ecosystems and natural features.
2. We consider that the National Policy needs to be linked with energy efficiency and conservation measures..
3. We endorse the principle of guidance for energy projects if it helps producers to think carefully and to assess the environmental costs as well as the economic so no more inappropriate schemes, like that proposed dam on the Mokihinui, are mooted.

Our submission is:

[include –

1. • *whether you support or oppose the specific provisions or wish to have them amended; and*
2. • *the reasons for your views].*
- 3.
4. The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society's main objects are; "To take reasonable steps within the power of the Society for the preservation and protection of the indigenous flora and fauna and natural features of New Zealand, for the benefit of the public including future generations."

5.

6. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005, compiled by 1,360+ World experts for the United Nations, endorses the need for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources to maintain healthy ecosystems for the well being of citizens and the survival of the planet as a habitat for humans.

7.

8. Many forms of energy production have significant impacts on indigenous biodiversity. River systems and surrounding valley habitats are destroyed by hydro dams and cannot be restored. Geothermal power production can destroy surrounding geothermal ecosystems and coal mining often destroys significant native habitats and waterways as it is doing now at Stockton.

9.

10. New Zealand's energy resources need to be used conservatively with an increasing percentage of energy obtained from biodiversity-friendly renewable sources.

11.

12. We are concerned that climate change associated with the use of fossil fuels and other greenhouse gases, poses significant risks to a range of indigenous habitats, especially alpine and sub-alpine areas, to threatened species and marine populations. Many pest species could also flourish with warmer temperatures; for example, the increased frequency of beech mast years with consequent rodent and mustelids plaques is directly related to increased frequency of warmer summers and autumns. We are therefore pleased that coal, as it is not a sustainable energy source, will be phased out through these policies.

13.

14. Climate change is a global problem. New Zealand should not be adding to greenhouse gas emissions by exporting coal for energy generation overseas. This is not promoting renewable electricity generation and should still be counted as NZ's emissions..

15.

We seek the following changes to the proposal:

[give precise details].

- | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *1. The addition of the words "biodiversity-friendly" before the words "renewable electricity generation" as a matter of national significance. *2. Recognising the importance of environmental protection in the 'Objective *3. An assessment of actual future electricity needs taking into consideration the savings which can be made by more efficient use and energy conservation measures so that any development is actually needed and not just because it is possible. |
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We wish to be heard in support of my submission.

- * If others make a similar submission, we will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.
- * Delete if you would not consider presenting a joint case.

Signature of submitter (or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter)

.....

Date 30th October, 2008

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means.)

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