

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Water Consultation Submissions](#)
Subject: Next steps for fresh water
Date: Sunday, 10 April 2016 12:40:46 p.m.

I am writing to submit my objection to Iwi being given control over freshwater. The policy could be considered racist since it places the concerns and rights of one race ahead of all others which fundamentally causes inequality and discrimination. I wholeheartedly agree that Maori have a cultural reasons associated with rivers lakes and ponds but this can be supported without giving Maori control. Freshwater is one of the key rights of life and as such putting control of freshwater in the hands of one race discriminates against all other races under the Human Rights Act. It is a fundamental under the Human Rights Act to the right to life and without water life is not sustainable.

The most important matter to all Kiwi's is that water is controlled by a representative group of all ethnicities for the benefit of all ethnicities. Giving control to one ethnicity results in cultural separatism and exclusion.

It is key to this amendment to the RMA that the govt set higher national standards and advocate better custodianship. There needs to be fairness in the system to prevent large companies dominating water abstraction, be they bottling water or irrigating their farms.

It is also key to management of the environment to better regulate the discharge of effluent to ground and water courses, whatever the cause.

Thankfully New Zealand isn't the wild west and therefore we shouldn't sacrifice control of water to the upstream ranch.

Yours sincerely

Stephen