

# WATER- USE & CARE SUBMISSION

With rapid climate change, global warming, ice caps melting extremes of floods and droughts it is time to reevaluate the use of water. It is our most precious resource upon which our primary products depend.

It is no longer appropriate to squander what we truly know to be precious. Millions of people in the world are desperate for clean water. It is to the modern economy what salt once was, then gold, oil. It is grossly irresponsible to permit any Tom, Dick, Harry to put down a bore & help themselves to this resource.

Aquifers have accumulated over centuries & once they are drained, not refilled quickly, will become polluted, will our present destructive policy of intensive agriculture and dairying. Science has proven this. So to ignore their data and wilfully squander this resource should be considered criminal. In days of old to poison a neighbour's well was a capital offense, yet today we are confronted by rivers and lakes all over NZ either drained dry or polluted so badly as to be toxic to all life. All in my lifetime & yours.

Havelock North last year was an indication of what more can come. 5,000 people ill from polluted water. - 5 of whom now have a hideous degenerative

disease. The present Govt refused to take responsibility in leadership, denying it as a crisis. What an appalling indictment on this Government.

It is a blatant lie now to advertise NZ as clean and green. Tourists must pay their share for water privileges

Farming was once called animal husbandry - from the word husband to care and conserve prudently. Kaitiaki, the Maori way as guardians of the land. Symbiotic nurturing and respectful.

Now Agri. business's with all its sickening attempts to beguile us with sickening celebrity ads brain washing us into their deceit that they are caring industries.

Inappropriate farming is taking place on unsuitable lands as a consequence we are forced to import palm kernels grown on tropical lands depleted of healthy jungle for that purpose. The chance of introducing tropical diseases into our environment also increases.

We used to lead the world in good agricultural practice & now we've sold out for quick short term profit. Regional Councils have too much autonomy & for too long full of cronies who know little of science but like their prestige & look after old mates.

Successive governments have sneered at Green Policies & endeavoured to taint the word "Green" and closed their minds to sound environmental Green practises.

Now is the time for collaborative leadership & unified policy on water care, management & pricing.

Sincerely Rosemary Baragwanath.