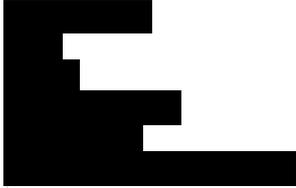


# Your submission to Clean Water

Jonathan Colyer



## Clause

What are your thoughts on the proposed swimming targets, for example, on the timeframes and categories?

## Notes

These are far too far into the future. This is bad for many reasons, some of which are: - It allows many years to pass by with no progress, while still claiming to be "on track" - People will forget that 23 years ago a commitment was made, or it will be claimed that the government (long since retired) couldn't have achieved such a target. - The target implicitly assumes that river quality can be returned to normal. This simply isn't true - species are going extinct left, right and centre - and any fixes arriving by 2040 are after the horse has bolted.

## Clause

What do you think about the proposed amendments to the Freshwater NPS?

## Notes

The amendments amount to a weak promise to clean up some rivers, but only if it doesn't cost too much. This is a reversal from even the previous version of the NPS - and is likely to mean that in every important case, the "economic" reasons will overturn any environment concerns. In practice this will mean that you can pay to pollute - this is simply unacceptable. The legal language furthermore means that any activity - as long as it makes someone money, can be allowed to pollute the river systems.

## Clause

What are your thoughts on the proposed stock exclusion regulation, for example, the timeframes and stock types to be excluded?

## Notes

No comment.

## Clause

Do you have any other comments on the contents of the Clean Water discussion document?

## Notes

The level of 'swimmability' is too low. How can any sane person believe that a 3-5% risk of Campylobacter infection would be "excellent" quality? What utter nonsense. The claim that we'd be similar to European standards is also irrelevant - the standard is too low. Nobody wants to willingly take such a high risk in what's supposed to be a pristine piece of water. Lastly - as to the motivation of these amendments. The government is acting extremely short-sightedly, trading priceless natural heritage for short-term dairy profits. The world is finding out that New Zealand is just another country with a few nice bits - but mostly just paddocks full of cows and cowpats, and is as polluted as the UK. When that becomes well known - people won't bother with the 14 hour flight. Not only this, but people who call New Zealand their home don't want their one of a kind country turned into just another country. Real leaders lead in bold new directions - poor ones just copy other countries.