

**From:** [ withheld ]  
**To:** [WaterReformPublicConsultation](#)  
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**Subject:** Submission on National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.  
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Submission on National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

I grew up in Dunedin with Otago's Taieri River as a favourite picnic place, and since moving to Nelson in 1980 I have loved having the Maitai River right at my back door.

This summer both these rivers have had 'No Swimming' signs go up - one polluted by e-coli and the other by cyano-bacteria.

It is a tragedy that we have allowed our rivers to get into this state. We have been prepared to sacrifice beauty, native fish, safe drinking water, wonderful recreational opportunities and our reputation as '100% Pure' in pursuit of off-shore earnings from dairy and forestry that benefit the already wealthy and investors outside New Zealand.

I am shocked that the National Government, through the so called Ministry for the Environment, would seek legal sanction to allow further degradation of waterways.

On behalf of my grandchildren I implore the Ministry for the Environment, under Section 4.3 Compulsory Value, to set a swimmable/ safe immersion level for all rivers.

Best regards

*Jacquetta Bell*

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