

**From:** [ withheld ]  
**To:** [WaterReformPublicConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Rivers are for swimming  
**Date:** Friday, 24 January 2014 5:52:17 p.m.

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Jack Yan  
[ withheld ]

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Green Party's stance on clean rivers is an admirable one and worth my endorsement. It is entirely in line with the image we communicate abroad—even though, as a percentage of GDP, we trail France when it comes to protecting our environment.

It's time to get 100 per cent real on 100 per cent pure—we Kiwis are good at setting targets and achieving them.

Let's show that politics can do so, not just sports.

The rules should ensure the following, and this is becoming more achievable with cheaper technology, such as micro-sensors. We are not talking about things that will break the bank:

- \* water clarity and periphyton cover (a measure of how much algae, bacteria and detritus is covering the river bed) are monitored, to ensure our rivers are safe for swimming;
- \* monitoring of aquatic insects to ensure our rivers are healthy;
- \* there is a limit on both problem pollutants nitrogen and phosphorus so they don't cause nuisance algal growth; and
- \* a limit on sediment to ensure our rivers are healthy.

Any exemptions to the rules should be limited to a list of specific water bodies.

Yours sincerely,

Jack Yan