

Fresh Water Management Policy Statement: submission.

Date: 25 January 2014

To the Minister for the Environment.

Kia ora.

Name: Helen Yensen, [withheld] Retired secondary/tertiary teacher.
[withheld]

Re Section 4.3: The compulsory value needs to be set at a swimmable/safe immersion level.

Enough evidence has been presented to you to show that it is not necessary for our rivers to remain unswimmable for agriculture, particularly dairy, to thrive. The evidence is compelling and supported by the existence of profitable non-polluting farms and farm practices.

If the quality of life of fellow citizens is of little consideration you should at least consider the economic damage that the proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management is going to do to NZ's "clean/green" image if the proposed value limits become widely known overseas.

Being able to swim safely in our rivers and lakes has been such a major part of our NZ way of life, that most of us have difficulty getting our heads around the fact that that is no longer possible and that we have a Government and Minister for the Environment who do not seem to care.

I am outraged that instead of vigorously promoting the full clean-up of our rivers and lakes, you intend to officially accept permanent pollution of our fresh waters.

Please, change the bottom line for water quality to one that allows safe and clean swimming and immersion.

Sincerely, Helen Yensen