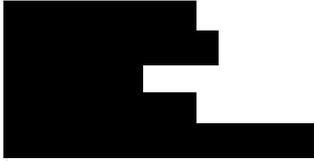


Your submission to Clean Water

Elizabeth Kerekere



Clause

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

Notes

I am concerned that there are no enforceable targets for Councils and that 2040 is too slow for compliance. It should be 2030 to ensure that irreparable damage does not occur in the meantime. The removal of ecoli grades is also an issue as the proposed 540/100ml for ecoli means nothing is done until conditions are just short of having to close down a beach. Issues should be addressed well before then.

Clause

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

Notes

The NPS is not ambitious enough to maintain and improve on existing levels of swimmability per waterway. River conditions should not be aggregated as per Objective A2 to 'maintain and /or improve overall'. Each waterway should be tested, maintained and improved from its current condition. The risk of averaging or aggregating condition 'overall' is that some waterways can become worse. In terms of MCI, I support the recommendations of the Land & Water Forum to measure and set goals. Finally, I am concerned about the fact that 'economic well-being' can be used as an excuse to waive what minimum standards there are to protect against the further degradation of our waterways. A strong economy would include the protection of our land, seas and waters which this does not.

Clause

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

Notes

I am pleased to see that this has been extended to all farms which has not been done before so thank you. I agree that support be given to farmers to move over to reticulation in order to gain access to water that it will lose with fencing. I note with concern that no requirements has been stipulated for the minimum set back, even if practicalities mean that it must be negotiated depending on location and flood risk. I hope that support will be given to replant riparian strips once setbacks are in place to address the inevitable takeover of noxious weeds. Generally, I want to emphasize that any changes made to comply with these requirements are not used to offset intensification.

Clause

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

Notes

I am surprised that our country is not accused of false advertising when our tourism marketing claims we are 100% Pure and the government signed the Paris Accord, presumably in good faith. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute.