

Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Ross Gillespie

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

I am extremely worried about the allocation of water for irrigation as it is having a drastic effect on our rivers in Canterbury.

At present the allocation seems to be heavily in favour of agriculture and the dairy "boom."

Yours,

Ross Gillespie

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Nick Hopkins

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I do not believe you have the right to decide on whether the people of Canterbury have a right to democracy or not. Thus, I wish to make clear my strong opposition to the current governing proposal for an undemocratic and unrepresentative ECAN.

Canterbury has lost a lot in recent years. Six years ago we lost our right to vote for ECAN representatives, something which seems to have been distracted from by our struggles in rebuilding. But there is no reason why we should be treated as democratic second class citizens, as compared to the rest of NZ.

In fact, because of how the city and its surrounds are currently being rebuilt and reshaped, giving people a voice on ECAN is now more important than ever.

Full democratic representation must be restored immediately. It is not up to you to decide how much democracy we are able to have - doing this means there is no real democracy at all.

The current plan for a half government-appointed council is an insult to democracy, and further limits the natural right the residents of Canterbury should have in helping to decide the future of their home.

Please - think about this from the point of view of those that live here, those that have families here, and those that see their future here. New Zealand is either a fully democratic country, or not at all.

Yours,

Nick Hopkins.

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Paddy Gilgenberg

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately

.We pay our rates; which pay the salaries of the body which governs the ratepayers; in a democracy surely that means we must have a say.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours,

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Gary Watts

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my stern opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand. As this could be described as a direct form in discrimination. Or in common terms a blatant breach of a person/persons human rights. Sadly this has been plainly obvious, to the people of this, especially following all the major Canterbury Earthquakes. (suggest you very carefully review all the many shocking media reports on this topic)

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

Since this time a lot of progress in ensuring the future of this province has been dramatically hindered.

This has self-created a huge downturn in the overall economy of this large region, as unfortunately many business people have left to operate in another area of NZ, where there is a more genuine, transparent and appropriately (including respectfully) operated form in senior governance.

For example the public transportation systems have been sliced over and over (very few people currently use this now totally dysfunctional arrangement) and therefore public roads just cant cope with a sudden overflow. in increased motor vehicle traffic.

Its obvious that a public rail transportation system should have been installed (during the period the Commissioner's were appointed) as many cities in New Zealand (whom are all democratically governed) fully recognise the large obtained benefits in using this system that will in turn hugely boost the economy of their specific region.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

It is solely as form in power in control by several highly paid (all tax payer funded) folk whom have very little or no understanding in the on-going future of this very large region in New Zealand. (one of the biggest in this country)

Yours, Gary L Watts

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Ashley Campbell

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my strong opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand. We have as much right to decide the future of our region as any New Zealanders.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy. Ecan is not paid for by Government funding. It is paid for by rates. You may remember the phrase "No taxation without representation." It's just as valid now as it ever was.

Yours,

Ashley Campbell

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Stephen Howard

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch 8042

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

All the people of New Zealand have a right to democratic involvement in their local government.

Six years ago, the then National government replaced an elected regional council with commissioners. The sole reason of this action appeared to be that the council was acting democratically in opposing the wholesale privatisation of water in the interests of three councilors and the corporate farming community.

This was an attack on democracy.

This creeping fascism must be halted immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

Yours,

Stephen Howard

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Dianne Tovey

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy and feels like a slap in the face, as though we are second class citizens, or at the very least it makes us feel as though we are being treated like children too young to be able to make any decisions for ourselves.

Yours,

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Beatrice Cheer

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

Its been a very difficult 4 years since the Christchurch earthquakes. With organizations such as CERA in charge, many residents feel powerless and unheard. There are big decisions that need to be made here around the rebuild. How those decisions impact upon the environment is hugely relevant. Rural land use is continuing to have an influence on water and land quality and it's time that we all had a say in what is to be done about it.

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours,
Beatrice Cheer

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Renata Hopkins

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy. It is yet another example of the top-down governance that has suppressed true democracy in Canterbury since the earthquakes.

Now, more than ever, the people of this region need a say. The chance to elect representative groups is a fundamental part of that process.

Yours,

Renata Hopkins

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Ian MacKay

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Blenheim 7201

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

The removal of ECan Democracy was and is so wrong. What we have now is a blatant move to give water to a few without due regard to the risks to aquifer pollution or to plant and animal life. Let alone river ecology pollution.

This Government must return democracy in full to ECan.

Yours,

Ian MacKay

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Sarah Whitcombe-Dobbs

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

"Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others" (Winston Churchill).

Christchurch must have full, democratically-elected representation on ECAN. Not half the council - every member.

Our water and our environment are too precious to trust to those who are not directly accountable to the people.

Best regards,

Sarah Whitcombe-Dobbs

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Maurice Sinclair

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I do not agree with the proposal for mixed governance of Environment Canterbury.

The discussion paper accentuates the complexity of ECan's job in Canterbury and how much it is alleged to be dependent on the skills of appointees.

Every region in New Zealand has a significant number of complex issues yet there is an assumption being made by the Government Ministers that Canterbury's problems cannot be confronted through full democracy yet those in other regions can.

Much of the complexity cited in the discussion document is handled by ECan staff just the same way as is done in institutions such as City Councils and Governments. It could also be said that skilled appointees could do a better job than Members of Parliament or City Councillors but I have heard of no thrust to eliminate such local or national democracy.

The appointed commissioners are reported to be highly skilled. It is surely now time for the use of some of those attributes to be putting mechanisms in place to ensure a smooth, effective and efficient transfer of governance to a fully democratic body. If the commissioners believe that they really do have just the skills necessary for running ECan, they have the same right as anybody to stand for election as Regional Councillors. I would hope that some are already thinking they will stand although I have not heard any commissioners stating that full democracy should determine the new governors.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Thank you,
Maurice Sinclair.

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Philip Catton

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently from other regions in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This was a travesty against democracy at the time.

The continuance to six years of such an outrage is its own further indictment of central government power play.

This right for the people of Canterbury to democratically determine environmental goals and policies within the region must be restored immediately. No half measures will do: a fully elected regional council must be reinstated now.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy. It is instead an insult to the very concept of democracy as well as to the people of Canterbury.

Show some self-respect: learn that there is no self respect that does not involve respect for the agency of others.

Yours,

Philip Catton

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Carole LONG

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Mount Maunganui

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently from anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

I have just had a family member tell me of his distress at seeing the landscape of Canterbury so radically changed by dairying. He was alarmed at the huge increase in irrigation systems and the loss of trees in the rural areas.

This focus on short term gain is not the way to protect our environment and we have a responsibility to our future generations to manage land and water with care.

Yours,

Carole Long

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: John Coburn

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

The removal of my right to vote for my elected representatives is WRONG.

I request the IMMEDIATE restoration of FULL democracy to ECAN.

I strongly resent any erosion of my right to vote for those who decide how my rates are spent and how our environment is managed.

If any group organised an ECAN rates boycott I would support that as I believe the removal of democracy at ECAN has been and continues to be AGAINST the basic principles of our democracy and an insult to all ratepayers and all who fought to establish our democracy and way of life.

If not unlawful, the governments theft of my democracy is deplorable and therefore I register my strong and absolute opposition to this trend and this ongoing agenda of treating our rights as negotiable and optional.

Please do not continue this path down the road of disenfranchisement...it is not one that leads anywhere for any one of us, or the environment we rely upon for our wealth and enjoyment of life.

John Coburn

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Marian Hobbs

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Dunedin

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately.

Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Minister, you know that working WITH the people provides lasting solutions to environmental issues. I refer to Fiordland Guardians as one example.

Marian Hobbs

Yours,

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Judith Spencer

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Pukekohe

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

(Before I send the following submission I will add a few personal comments:

I watched the government under John Key remove the rights of the people of Canterbury to have an elected council to do their bidding, for the spurious reason of water control for business reasons, not for the people of that region.

Knowing how easy it is to allow foreign business to take NZ water for free, I can only imagine that you will do this throughout NZ just as you are forcing through giant Councils, when you said only Auckland, and that was also without permission from the people. Rodney Hide, aided and abetted by National also had sights on privatising Auckland water, when he removed Aucklanders' democratic right to vote on it. The theft of ECAN democracy will be repeated throughout NZ. The template is being followed in Auckland University as well with government lackeys taking the place of democratic and thoughtful process by forcing out students and teachers from the University council. Your ethics as a government both in your public policy and your personal behaviour is found wanting.

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours,

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Graham Townsend

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

There is simply no justification for the continued lack of democracy at ECAN. It is arrogant, patronising, and against everything that Kiwis stand for. There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours,

Graham Townsend and Christine Leaver

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Stephen Judd

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

I would like to record my protest at being disenfranchised.

It is not good enough to have half the council selected by central government. It cannot be a representative body if 50% of its members are not elected.

As a ratepayer and citizen of Canterbury, you are depriving me and all my fellow citizens of our rights, in the name of convenience.

Democracy is not convenient, but it is just. Appointing members to a body like ECAN, which levies rates and makes important decisions, is unjust.

I respectfully request a return of the rights that the rest of New Zealand enjoys. Immediately.

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: James Dann

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

The "mixed model" of proposed governance is an insult to the intelligence and the democratic freedoms of the people of Canterbury. We deserve every right to have a say over how our rates are spent, and how our environment is managed. I am strongly opposed to this proposal, and would like to see full democracy given back to the people of this region.

Yours,

James Dann

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Paul Thomas

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Reefton 7830

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing of ECAN as it exists today and the future proposed undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand. And I agree, if every other region can have a regional council, then Canterbury should have its own. We live in a democratic country in New Zealand and in NO way should our democracy be subtracted away!

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN. This should have NEVER happened!

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy. This is TOTALLY unacceptable!

I grew up in Christchurch and regularly visit from the West Coast where I now live. I have a strong affinity for Christchurch and I have been appalled at the number of undemocratic institutions imposed on Christchurch, which includes CERA. The unacceptable loss of democracy must stop!

Yours,

Paul Thomas

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Rob Clark

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

It is extremely unfair for you to decide that the people of Canterbury are incapable of managing their own resources with your intervention. No taxation without representation! It is up to the people of Canterbury to elect ALL their representatives and then accept the consequences (both good & bad) of these choices. It is not your god to assume you no better than the people and that they cannot be trusted with providing good governance.

Yours,

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Shona Jowett

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to express my opposition to the undemocratic governing of ECan.

Canterbury should be able to elect our Regional Council, and I find the fact that we cannot very concerning for the way that very important issues (like water and air quality) are being managed and decided upon. I believe ECan should be accountable to Canterbury, and not just via central Government through the ECan commissioners.

I think the ability of Canterbury to vote for their representatives on ECan should be fully restored.

Thank you for your time,

Shona Jowett

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Ruth Ian Woodley Connor

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch 8081

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

Six years ago Canterbury residents lost their democratic rights when the Government removed ECAN's elected councillors and replaced them with Government appointed commissioners.

The democratic rights of New Zealanders are not negotiable and should never have been removed from the people of Canterbury.

I am opposed to the Government's proposal that ECAN consist of half appointed and half elected members.

Nothing less than a fully elected council will ensure Cantabrians have the same democratic representation as other New Zealanders.

Yours,

Ruth Woodley & Ian Connor

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Paul Broady

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch 8024

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

There should be more time available for public debate of this important issue for Canterbury. Democracy is about everyone having their say. Undoubtedly the majority of Cantabrians oppose your proposals for government appointed membership of our regional council. Let the people speak.

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours,

Paul Broady

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: John Hopkins

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment, The Right Honourable Nick Smith MP.

I would like to record my strong opposition to the proposed restructuring of ECAN. The proposal is undemocratic and indefensible.

No other region of the country will government by a (majority) centrally appointed regional Council and it is an affront to the people of Canterbury that we will be subjected to this treatment.

There is simply no good reason why Canterbury should be treated any differently from other regions.

The people of Canterbury should have their right to a democratic controlled regional council restored immediately. 6 years without democratic representation is 6 years too long.

The proposed plan to have a 50% appointed board is not a return to democracy. It is punishment for the people of Canterbury for electing representatives that opposed the views of some powerful vested interests.

Yours,

Dr. John Hopkins

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: David Deakins

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Springston

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours, David Deakins

Also I would like to add my own personal take on this. It is very obvious what is going on here.

People who were on the council who were against large scale environmental modification like the CPWS were slowing up the right wing agenda so they had to be got rid of.

These people who had an interest in preserving the rivers were representing me and my interests

Now I've been told, you don't have a vote on the future of where you live, you don't matter at all, your lifestyle is of no importance to us. This is what you'll get.

To say I'm very unhappy with this extremely rude termination of my rights is a massive understatement

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Joanna Goven

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: RD3 Akaroa

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my strong opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

Six years ago, in a violation of the basic democratic rights of the people of Canterbury, the National government removed Cantabrians' right to vote for their regional government, which nonetheless continued to make decisions that were binding on us and to levy taxes that we were required to pay. It seems the National government holds the people of Canterbury in contempt and considers it appropriate that we should have inferior rights and protections compared to the rest of NZ.

This situation is completely unacceptable. Our full rights must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy, it is the continuation of a blatantly authoritarian strategy to deny Cantabrians their democratic rights.

Yours,

Joanna Goven (Dr)

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Karen Grant

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN. This undemocratic arrangement is untenable under our democracy.

There is no credible reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand. Six years of undemocratic rule is far too long. In 2010, we were promised a return by the Local Government Minister to an elected body no later than late 2013 and this further delay will lead to the makes a mockery of the promises made by our elected government. The government has a duty to fulfil it's promise to return democracy to Canterbury within a reasonable time.

The right of Canterbury voters to elect their own regional council representatives must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy and makes a mockery of our electoral system. Stop treating Cantabrians like second-class citizens, we have the right to decide what happens in our region.

Yours,

Karen R Grant

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Brendon Harre

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Amberley

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Canterbury has a long and proud history of democracy which my family has played it's part and I do not accept some second rate system for me or my kids.

Yours,

Brendon Harre

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Allan Buck

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Darfield

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my total opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

Why are you treating Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand. This decision is not transparent.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury had their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN stripped from them. Why?

This right must be restored immediately and nothing less than full democratic representation will be acceptable.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

There is no reason why full democracy should not be returned.

What is it that frightens the current Government in giving people their hard fought rights, and a right it is, not to be stolen or interfered with by politicians and others with vested financial interests.

Yours,

A.R. Buck

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Sally McRae

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED],

Town/City: Christchurch 8023

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy and is underhanded and unacceptable to democracy. My faith in democracy in this country has been shattered by your approach and rejection of our right to self govern in this regard.

The vested interests of those appointed demonstrated corruption and behaviour that is entirely unacceptable and unconstitutional.

The denegation of the environment since my childhood to now is being exacerbated by the decisions made and my children have the right to be heard - as do all people of Canterbury.

Immediate removal of those appointed by the Government needs to occur now and elections held.

Yours,

Sally McRae

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: David Woodings

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch 8023

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN, and the continuation of an undemocratic process and state for Canterbury now for too many years.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy and is nothing more than a sham. There is nothing to gain from this for the people of Canterbury, and nothing short of returning a democratic process back to the people of Canterbury will satisfy me. There is too much at stake for ECAN to remain 'managed and massaged' by the government while the people of Canterbury have no say in its determinations and mandates.

Yours,

David Woodings

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Ian Burn

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to express my discontent with the lack of return to democracy for ECAN in Canterbury

The current proposal to elect only slightly more than half of the representatives isn't democracy.

Why should Canterbury be seen as a place 'too dangerous for democracy' to paraphrase Nick Smith.

Why is the government trampling on the human rights of Cantabrians in direct contradiction of its commitment to the UN declaration of these rights?

Why has the government backtracked on its prior commitment to restoring democracy?

Please restore full elected representation to ECAN.

If you are a staff member reading this please consider resigning on principle. If enough of you do this the government will have no capacity to implement its increasingly authoritarian and anti-democratic policies.

Yours Sincerely,

Ian Burn

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Dirk DeLu

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Santa Cruz

Submission:

Ministry for the Environment:

Six years ago Cantabrians protested the usurpation of our democracy by your corrupt government. All we got was the lie that elections would be held.

Now another ploy is on hand to make sure those who rule can continue to do so without the interference of voters. So much for democracy. One would expect no less from this band of wanna be robber barons.

Am I being too disrespectful? Ousting legitimately elected public representatives is about as disrespectful as you can get. I am merely observing and commenting on what actually happened.

In no way do I accept the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

The only reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand is to further corruption of democracy.

The right to elect our regional representatives right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

Letting central government despots appoint half the council is not a return to democracy. It is another step towards dictatorship.

Yours, Dirk De Lu

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: John Shears

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Auckland 0620.

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

Whilst I currently live in Auckland I was born and grew up in South Canterbury and am well aware of the dramatic degrading of water quality in the Canterbury region.

Lake Ellesmere perhaps is the worst example of this but there are others.

Yours,

John Shears

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Donald Rutherford

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Kaitaia

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy and is contrary to the principles of democracy creating a bias to party politics which in essence is undemocratic instead of party representation which is by election and the power remains with the individual voter not a cartel of biased interests stacking representation thru donating to govt to buy favour or subverting the democratic rights of the voter

Yours,

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Rose Melchers

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Dunedin

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand. In fact, after the earthquakes, Canterbury has shown New Zealand what it is capable of, and has risen to this unbidden challenge better than anyone had anticipated. Canterbury is now stronger than ever as a community, and I feel that this new community spirit should be celebrated and nurtured. The government's proposed plan to appoint half of the council achieves the opposite effect. It tells Christchurch that it cannot be trusted to run itself, and insults the people who have achieved so much for their city.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN. This was justified by the extreme circumstances of the time, but has now become unnecessary and unwanted (if it was ever needed in the first place).

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this. As it stands, the proposal undermines the core concept of local body government.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy, and it denies Cantabrians something which the rest of New Zealand takes for granted.

Yours,

Rose Melchers

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Pat Brooker

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

Although this is a proforma submission I want to say that I utterly agree with what is written here. I stood with Peter Beck in Cathedral Square prior to the earthquake. Many of us from Canterbury who stood there thought that losing our democratic rights in choosing our Regional Councillors was so shocking, that we could hardly believe it. We could never have envisaged the further democratic erosion that has occurred since then and possibly to continue.

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours,

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Lynda Whitlow

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Rangiora

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN for the following reason- and many more.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand:

It is time that our communities had a say in urgent matters such as water rights. It is getting too late for our environment with the toxic algal blooms our rivers constantly have. It is now impossible to swim in local rivers due to these blooms - prior to earlier low river levels and dairy run-off these were unknown and we could swim in rivers such as the Ashley and Okuku until they naturally dried up. This coming generation will not know the pleasure of our environment as it will be too late to fix the toxicity.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy, and is against the wishes of citizens in Canterbury.

Yours,
Lynda Whitlow

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Arthur Redditt

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

Taxation without representation is tyranny.

On Anzac Day, we commemorated our brave forefathers who fought for our freedoms. A key fundamental part of this freedom is the right to vote and choose for ourselves who shall govern us, whether at local or national level.

To compromise this basic right is a dangerous precedent. Using this logic, it would be easy for the government to say that we don't need elections at a national level.

The government's governance proposal for Ecan is fundamentally ethically and morally wrong. It goes against everything the democracy stands for.

Yours,

Arthur Redditt

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: John Draper

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

How about keeping up Kate Shepherd's tradition and allow Canterbury people to have a vote on ECAN.

Yours faithfully,

John Draper.

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Alex Stone

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Auckland

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

This government has taken away democracy from the people of Canterbury. This happened before the earthquakes. There is now no real reason for this unfair situation to persist. It is time to restore democracy in Canterbury.

The governing arrangement proposed by the Government for ECAN, is undemocratic. The people of Canterbury should have the right to elect their own local government. I totally reject the assertion made recently by Nick Smith, that democracy is unsuitable for Canterbury. This is morally wrong, and indefensible.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy - it is a cynical expedient, and will not be tolerated by the people of Canterbury, or anywhere in New Zealand.

Yours,

Alex Stone

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: frances ross

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: christchurch

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

I took a great interest in the issues, that were contentious at the time and remain so, by way of making written submissions. These I made in the prescribed way from the Ecan office. When the government stepped in and appointed their own reps on Ecan my submissions became null and void.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve thi

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours sincerely Frances Ross

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Lindsay Carswell

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Christchurch

Submission:

Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

The Government decided to prevent an elected ECan Council from managing Canterbury's water, so it fabricated the case for its dismissal. It still does.

The mayors cheered from the sidelines, their councils and electors mostly ignorant of their leaders' plotting and the consequent loss of their rights as citizens to hold their regional council decision makers to account.

ECan was a functional Council with many high calibre elected members. It was fully discharging its duties under its legislation, including the preparation of a massive plan for managing Canterbury's water. It led New Zealand in many of its core activities.

The Government's actions in removing ECan's elected members shames New Zealand's proud democratic history. The disgrace continues, for now.

Should local democracy be a matter of such convenience, something for casual dismissal if Wellington and/or some local leaders don't like the prospects of regional democratic outcomes?

Democracy should always be the fundamental underpinning of the relationship between the governors and the governed, providing the accountability for those who spend the taxes to those who pay them. This is not the case in Canterbury.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy

Yours,

Lindsay Carswell

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Environment Canterbury Review

Name: Caron Fletcher

Email address: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Postal Address: [REDACTED]

Town/City: Roxburgh

Submission:

To the Ministry for the Environment:

I would like to record my opposition to the undemocratic governing arrangement proposed for ECAN.

Since the government took control there has been no improvement to the system; in fact it has been to the detriment of the city. Let go of Christchurch, this government has done enough damage to the city.

There is no reason to treat Canterbury differently to anywhere else in New Zealand.

Six years ago, the people of Canterbury lost their right to vote for their representatives on ECAN.

This right must be restored immediately. Nothing less than full democratic representation will achieve this.

The plan to have the government appoint half the council is not a return to democracy.

As an ex Chch person I have witnessed the incompetence from this government appointed ECAN board. Leave Chch to govern itself, it is better at it.

Yours,

Caron Fletcher

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