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National Planning Standards  
Ministry for the Environment  
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To the Planning Standards Team

Submission on Draft first set of National Planning Standards

The Tatua Co-operative Dairy Company Ltd (Tatua) appreciates the opportunity to make a submission on the draft first set of National Planning Standards (Draft Standards).

Formed in 1914, Tatua is one of the few dairy companies in New Zealand that has remained unchanged by merger or take-over. The Company operates from a single processing site located at Tatuanui, near Morrinsville in the Waikato.

Tatua’s milk processing facility has grown significantly over its long history, and as a result, there has been frequent engagement at both territorial and regional council level on an ever increasing range of planning matters. In an effort to provide greater certainty for future growth at our industrial site located within the rural zone, we have expended considerable time and resource over the past three years wading through the murky waters of a private district plan change process. This is an ongoing process.

Based on our experiences, we are convinced that there must be a better way. We therefore commend the Ministry for the Environment for undertaking this review and generally support the Draft Standards. The development of standards that reduce compliance costs and plan-complexity should improve the efficiency and effectiveness of RMA processes for all parties involved.

We have had the opportunity to review submissions on the Draft Standards prepared by Fonterra Limited and Synlait Milk Limited and fully support the issues raised by them, along with the corresponding changes to the Draft Standards that they have proposed.

Yours sincerely

Paul van Boheemen  
General Manager Co-operative Affairs