

DOC is against this application.

Key points →

→ Again 2 years later we the public have to defend the aquifer against commercial exploitat
Again we the "lay man" that has no commercial interest in the aquifer have to defend it against avocado orchards that have already got orchards developed, wanting more.
Again I stand here before you 2 commissioners trying to defend our aquifer.
Again against some of the same greedy farmers that want more and more from our aquifer. The same farmers that you commissioners allowed 2 years ago to take 2.4 billion litres.
Again we the common people that have no commercial gain have to take time out of our lives to come here and deal with the same hydrologists talking the same smack that hqn and his paid sidekicks, employed mostly by the same people demand more and more 4.6 billion litres m.
This request makes a mockery of the last hearing of 2.4 billion litres.
Again we the people that give a shit about the aquifer have to witness the commercialisation of our commodity. Yes our commodity.
Again the NRC have made this whole process a "limited notification" so that there's not too much resistance, so that the non-notified who do care can't have a say.

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Water has become too big a commodity, too big a Laonga for INRC or one department to handle. I put it too you, that the regional councils need to hand the rights to the people, not squander our water to these commercial interests that will rape & pillage our aquifer. forcing the domestic uses wells to dry up. NRC need to stop hiding behind the RMA when it comes to the "first in first served" laws. They need to stand up in parliament and tell the powers that be that it's not working and it's not right!

Why is it that it's so hard to access information from NRC. That every scrap of information has been drip-fed to us. Has been dictated by them to us. We have requested to be kept informed but obviously they wait until we ask or the law requires them to inform us, and then they leave it till the very last LEGAL day.

We the submitters have been given 100's of pages of literature (a lot of it scientific) to analyse 2 weeks out from this hearing from NRC. Why did we not have this information sooner? Is it that NRC did not have this info, nagaan because Brydon Hughes has had it! So it must have been available.

We all know that there has been many more submitters against this 'water grab' that are not willing to speak at this hearing. Some are frustrated, some are angry and feel if they stand up and say something there could be too many words, some have difficulty speaking in public. Whatever their reasons I know they fully tauteko/support those of us that do.

To those of us that have and will speak in this public forum. To those of you that have come here to listen and support, observe, even if for an hour.

To my friends over here that have been through the courts system trying to prove chemical trespass by arrogant helicopter businesses. To our Politicians

~~the~~ Darleen & Woolf from the Green Party sitting in for 3 days to see how this evolves To Michelle campaigning for the outdoors party-

Hei mihi mihi to all of you

To all the people that filled out submission forms I thank them also.

NRC has not made it an easy task.

To my wahine toa. Kei te tūturu tonu, ia ra ia ra.

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Yes the applicants had to employ an expert to tell us that this is sustainable and yes NRC have reviewed his companies findings but the independent study from Lincoln says, this aquifer is unique in character. It sure is, we have 2 oceans within 15 kms of each other in the Ngataki Houhora area so I say its very very important the the research is done and not rushed because of the 'want' of a few that see that there is money to be made.

We already have incidents of salt water intrusion in the Kaimauna area. Salt water that NRC and Williamson are calling 'anomalies'. Douglas Coulton, one of the submitters, hit the nail on the head and said that action needs to be taken. Yesterday! More research! Not just say, "Oh its an anomaly." NRC need

Investigate it! Do your job! Don't
let the avocado bore just a few hundred meters away pump 100 of thousands of litres per day. Stop. Lay down some of those cable things that John over there layed in the wetlands, pull your finger out of your butt and find out why.
You've been told by this knid over here about the tomas, to me it looked like you didn't know that. Try talking to the locals. Communication!

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How can we move to stage 2 when NRC don't even know what water has been used? Is NRC doing their job? NRC has had problems according to MP Hughes, of calibrating models in some bores for 20 odd years? duhhh fix it!!

It was admitted by ^{explain to audience} John that consents are being transferred. It seemed NRC didn't know that and if they did, is that legal?? What if the other bore is in another area/zone. Who's monitoring all this? Why did we not know of this? How do these big aro developments get temporary consents? We're not talking about 10 m³/day, 100's of cubes/day, if not thousands.

John seems to think the irrigation period is Jan Feb, March. He needs a reality check, these guys are pumping into May and as early as October. May not be at full rates but make no mistake, they are pumping. I live next door to 2 farms. We already know of an instance of water meter tampering through some employees of one of these farms they are concerned. Not naming the farm but the word Mapua comes to mind. I'm pretty sure NRC were informed but some excuse like it 'needed to be serviced' arose. Mmmmm pretty dodgy?

Monoculture is not a good thing. It has destroyed communities all over the world. Why are we heading that way?

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For a good chunk of my life I was a dairy farmer. I was in the industry long enough to remember the days when a pipe would come out of the caused, effluent would run down the hill, into a drain then into a stream, then into a river. It was an accepted practice.

Then the regional councils made us put an effluent pond in. And then 2 ponds. And then 3 ponds. All this time the dairy industry moaned about it. Fast forward to today and we all know that the standard 40 years ago was not right!

I saw the greed in the dairy industry the same way as I am seeing in the avocado industry. The moaning at more and more compliance costs, the bitching of having to keep spray records, the dairy farmers today have to have soil nutrient budgets, Water usage records, nitrate leaching records, etc.

Why does the avo industry think that an avo tree won't grow unless you irrigate it. The fact is it will. In a drought you may not get 20 tons of avo/canopy ha but just like us dairy farmers, you took the production drop on the chin. And you planned your management strategies for the following year.

You didn't go and increase your water take. In fact where I was farming the regional councils decreased your allocation and then if it didn't rain you would have to stop pumping. Common Sense Prevails. You didn't suck the river dry so no-one else could use it. We can't see the aquifer running dry but there are signs for

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those that are looking to pay attention too. NRC monitor it, don't they??

I am sure its their responsibility.
If they cant monitor these bores
employ me, I'll do it. I got a 'degree
in common sense!!

Back to dairying.

When we were considering putting
irrigation in, we done the sums,
we got the resource consent, then spent
hundreds of thousands on the equipment
and installation.

These guys, they installed their irrigation,
knees etc and then apply for resource consent.
Arrogance!! The question is - do they
have NRC 'by the balls' or is there
some corruption going on here?

(8)

Make no mistake ^{people} we are up against a monster here, 'their budget is big. Their attitude is ignorant. Ignorant too the authorities, ignorant to you & I ignorant to the mana of the whenua and moana

Greed, corruption, liars cheats are all that I have heard locals say. Locals that fear the negative side of the avocado industry. Locals that have had bores serving their whanau for decades, fear they will run dry. We have already heard from some who this is a reality for them.

NRC call it an 'inefficient bore'. So whapau drill deeper \$10,000 or more. These locals can't prove that 'the new 4.6 billion litre water grab' is at fault. According to NRC. 'the effects are only minor' according to John Williamson. quote "this is just a drop in the bucket"

NRC doesn't have a form for the 'affected party' to fill out, the 'affected party' has a moan locally, takes it 'on the chin' and just has to accept it. How is this right. Wheres those commissioners? So these are the 'lay people' as Mr Williamson refers to them. The people that live here during a drought. The people that have to conserve water while the big farms pump more. The people that have to put up with the spray drift monthly, weekly, the noise pollution, the arrogance of the orchardist ... etc

who has been given the right by you to abuse their privileges of only contacting their boundary neighbours of any chemical trespass. You, who keep opening the doors for more 'applicants',

How can we believe the science of a hydrologist who is paid by the applicants.

All of his figures are byist and that putting it nicely.

He wants the trigger levels changed so basically the grower controls the tap. As one well informed submitter has explained those trigger levels are way too unreliable as they are now let alone making the grower have the control. The saline intrusion triggers are already being triggered but "that's an anomaly."

Kenneth Alexander the hydrologist for department of education. says school bores within 2 km's of these commercial bores are at risk so everybody else is too. that live within 2 km.

You guys (commissioners) told me last time that you were the ones that are giving our water away not NRC. And now here we are 2 years later depending our aquifer ^{again} against you!

The 'givers' on is to the 'takers' of our resource, our taonga, our commodity, here we are again, only this time the take is double!!

What happened in the environment court last time? Weren't we supposed to do 4 years of research, 4 years of monitoring before we let more water be drawn out of our aquifer? 4.6 billion litres more! Enough to feed over half a million people per day. Based on 107 days.
refer summary of application

We know that after this hearing there is another list of applicants, some of them the same guys grabbing all they can. We knew it last time and we know it this time.

The question is ... if it all goes belly up as far as the aquifer is concerned, then who is gonna be held responsible, the groover, the hydrologist, NRC, the 'commissioners'?

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Well, a lot of the growers don't live on the peninsula so they won't be without water the hydrologist, he don't live here, N'RC? well they are faceless because they will blame it on each other, You commissioners? You'll be alright, you won't even have to visit us.

We the locals will incur the extra costs, we will live with the water restrictions, we will be the ones that suck up the poisonous sprays. Many people are blind to the potential risks of you giving our water away but I for one am not!

Conclusion

ultimately I would like you commissioners to deny this last group of any consents until the robust research of sustainability has been done. These guys have gone ahead with this development regardless of having consents so you need to send a clear message to them and the rest that are still 'pushing on' that it's not ok. That they need to do their 'bit' just like everybody else. There is way too much risk to us locals and our whenua.

Kia ora - tena koutou, tena koutou

tena tatou katoa.

Katy.