

## Gay Gibson

---

**From:** Gavin Smith <gavin.smith@cubeconsulting.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Friday, 21 March 2014 8:15 a.m.  
**To:** Mailroom Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission on Proposed Variation 1 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan  
**Attachments:** Chiswick.pdf

**Categories:** Purple Category

Please find my submission to Variation 1 attached.

Let me know if you require anything else.

Regards,

*Gavin*

# **Submission on Proposed Variation 1 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan**

**The Commissioners**  
Environment Canterbury  
P O Box 345  
Christchurch 8140

By email: [mailroom@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:mailroom@ecan.govt.nz)

## **Submitter:**

**Mr. Gavin Smith**  
Director  
Chiswick Farm Ltd.  
6 Rattray Street  
Devonport, Auckland 1309  
Email: [gavin.smith@cubeconsulting.co.nz](mailto:gavin.smith@cubeconsulting.co.nz)

## **Background**

My name is Gavin Smith and I am a shareholder in Chiswick Farm Ltd. (Chiswick), a farming company which owns and operates a 250ha dry land property at Te Pirita on the Central Canterbury Plains, in the Selwyn-Waihora Zone.

Chiswick is located within the Stage One area of the Central Plains Water Scheme and the Company owns 6,318 ordinary shares and 252 construction shares in Central Plains Water Ltd. (CPWL)

Chiswick has backed the development of the CPWL scheme for many years and is keen that the Scheme proceeds to enable the property to be irrigated. A key requirement for our farming business is that the irrigation water supply be of high reliability.

## **Submission**

The specific provisions of the Proposed Plan that my submission relates to are:

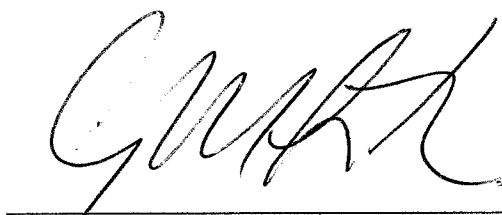
Policy 11.4.31 (Page 4-8),

The proposed policy seeks to prohibit the in-stream damming of the full flow on the main stem of the Selwyn River/Waikirikiri and the Waianiwaniwa River above its confluence with the Selwyn River/Waikirikiri.

**I oppose the proposed policy and seek to have the policy deleted.**

## Reasons

- i) Modern irrigated agriculture requires high water supply reliability.
- ii) One way of providing high supply reliability is by storing water when supplies are plentiful for use when demand cannot be met from run-of-river and groundwater sources.
- iii) The reliability of water supply of the Central Plains Water Scheme will be dependent on supplies of stored water.
- iv) Sites suitable for large-scale water storage in Canterbury are limited and the upper reaches of the Selwyn River and the Waianiwaniwa Rivers provide some of the most promising sites in the region.
- v) Storage sites in the Selwyn-Waihora zone will be important for the development of the Central Plains Scheme but might also be important in storing water for the wider Canterbury region.
- vi) Dams on these rivers could potentially be beneficial to the river environment as demonstrated by the Opuha Dam on the Opuha and Opihi River system in South Canterbury. The Opuha dam stores water for irrigation, hydro generation and municipal uses but the first call on any water that is released is to maintain a minimum flow in the river system. The same system on the Selwyn could potentially provide more consistent flow, with enhanced environment for fauna and flora.
- vii) The Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP) Addendum recommendation 2.11 relating to water storage "red flagged" a number of key issues that the developers of any water storage in the Selwyn and Waianiwaniwa would have to consider. The Zone Committee did not go as far as to recommend the prohibition of damming of the main stems.



**Gavin Smith**  
**Director – Chiswick Farm Ltd.**