

## Janel Hau

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**From:** LDonkers <leodon@xtra.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Friday, 21 March 2014 3:21 p.m.  
**To:** Mailroom Mailbox  
**Subject:** TRIM: Variation 1 LWRP submission  
**Attachments:** LWRP submission.pdf

**Categories:** Purple Category  
**HP TRIM Record Number:** C14C/43818

Hi

Please find attached our submission to the Proposed variation to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.

Regards Leo Donkers

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# **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

## **Submitter:**

**Mr. Leo Donkers**  
Managing Director  
Willsden Farm Ltd.  
RD 2, Leeston  
Email: leodon@xtra.co.nz

## **Background**

My name is Leo Donkers and I am a shareholder and managing director of Willsden Farm Ltd. (Willsden), a farming company which owns and operates a dairy farm at Te Pirita on the Central Canterbury Plains, in the Selwyn-Waihora Zone.

Willsden Farm has been irrigated since 1998 and holds resource consent CRC140929 to take and use groundwater.

The Willsden property is located within the Stage One area of the Central Plains Water Scheme and the Company owns 10,284 ordinary shares and 418 construction shares in Central Plains Water Ltd. (CPWL)

Willsden has backed the development of the CPWL scheme for many years and is keen that the Scheme proceeds, to provide an alternative, cost effective and reliable water source to pumping deep groundwater. A key requirement for our farming business is that any alternative water supply be of high reliability.

## **Submission**

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

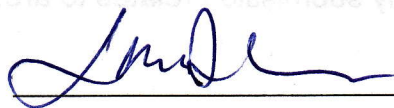
Policy 11.4.31 (Page 4-8),

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 Waianiwi 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 Waianiwhi 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 Waianiwhi would have to consider. The Zone Committee did not go as far as to recommend the prohibition of damming of the main stems.



**Leo Donkers**  
**Managing Director – Willsden Farm Ltd.**