Submission on the Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan

Form 5: Submissions on a Publicly Notified Proposed Policy Statement or Regional Plan under Clause 6 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Return your signed submission by 5.00pm, Friday 1 May 2015 to:
Freepost 1201
Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan.
Environment Canterbury
P O Box 345
Christchurch 8140

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Full Name: Donald George FOSTER
Organisation*: D G FOSTER FAMILY TRUST
* the organisation that this submission is made on behalf of
Postal Address: 215 Old Tai Tapu Rd
R D 2, CHRISTCHURCH 7672
Email: outthere2@gmail.com

Phone (Hm): 322-7736
Phone (Wk): 322-7736
Phone (Cell): 
Postcode: 7672
Fax: 

Contact name and postal address for service of person making submission (if different from above):
as above.

Trade Competition

Pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission may make a submission only if directly affected by an effect of the proposed policy statement or plan that:

a) adversely affects the environment; and
b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

Please tick the sentence that applies to you:

☐ I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission; or
☐ I could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. If you have ticked this box please select one of the following:
  ☐ I am directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission
  ☐ I am not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission

Signature:  
Date: 22/3/15

(B) (Signature of person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making the submission)

Please note:
(1) all information contained in a submission under the Resource Management Act 1991, including names and addresses for service, becomes public information.

☐ I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission; or
☐ I do wish to be heard in support of my submission; and if so,
  ☐ I would be prepared to consider presenting your submission in a joint case with others making a similar submission at any hearing.
SUBMISSION ON THE PROPOSED CANTERBURY AIR REGIONAL PLAN.

Location: Our property is a 4 Ha. Lot located at 215 Old Tai Tapu Road in the Lansdowne Valley area within the Christchurch City territorial boundary on land designated as Rural 2, and in a clean air zone 2. Our neighbours to the north have a 20+Ha. property, to the south a 6 Ha. property, and to our East, a 4Ha. property. Over the road, our neighbours have a 3Ha. property.

Need to burn tree trimmings and wood:
There are many trees and hedges in the area and we and our neighbours have no practical way of dealing with the tree damage or hedge trimmings other than by burning. Again, because of the availability of wood, we all have wood burners.

Rural Burning:
For many years we have restricted our burning of tree windfall and hedge trimmings to Apr/May and Sept/Oct in consultation with CCC. Our neighbours do the same, and this really amounts to no more than a handful of times per year. With properties of these sizes and appropriate fire precautions observed, it is neither an inconvenience nor health hazard to any of us, or anybody further afield and certainly not to residents of Christchurch city. None of our community to my knowledge has complained about smoke effects on these occasions either to their neighbours or to ECan.

There is no practical alternative for dealing with these rural issues, and we request the application of common sense against regulations that might further restrict our ability to be able to deal with tree and hedge material. In other words, we want no tightening of the existing regulations in our area.

Woodburners:
We, and our immediate neighbours use wood-burners, for the obvious reason that we have wood from trees that must be disposed of. Like our neighbours, we have several years supply of cut wood and store under cover two seasons of wood intended for future burning in the wood-burner. Our wood-burners are not the new ultra efficient burners currently priced around $8000 to $12000 excluding installation costs, (which seems to be a strategy to ultimately ban wood-burners using price as the agent rather than regulation) but our request is that the phasing out of pre ultra-efficient burners should not apply in areas that do not threaten the health of their neighbours or urban Christchurch residents.

None of the neighbours in our area are in any way whatsoever affected by smoke from our wood-burners. It would simply be heavy handed harassment to invoke regulations that are completely unnecessary and extremely expensive for rural people in our situation, and we need some common-sense to be shown by the regulators.

Summary: In a Rural 2 zone, present regulation is adequate to protect residents from health hazards of smoke. No change is required either with respect to rural burning or wood-burner technology.

Donald Foster,
For D & P Foster Family Trust
215 Old Tai Tapu Road, RD 2, Christchurch 7672. 22March 2015.