

From: [Fraser](#)
To: [Mailroom Mailbox](#)
Subject: Regional Air Plan submission
Date: Thursday, 30 April 2015 3:57:54 p.m.
Attachments: [ECans Proposed Air Plan FBR 30.04.15.wps](#)

ECan,

please find attached my submission on the proposed air plan for your consideration. Please not I do not wish to be heard at this time.

Yours
Fraser Ross,
Timaru.

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**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Submitter ID:

File No:

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 **A**

Full Name: Fraser B Ross Phone (Hm): 03 6843382

Organisation*: personal Phone (Wk):

* the organisation that this submission is made on behalf of

Postal Address: 46 Selwyn St, Maori Hill, Timaru Phone (Cell): 0272714282

Postcode: 7910

Email: Fax: n/a

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 through the submission may make a submission only if directly affected by an effect of the proposed policy statement 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 see 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:

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

Use note:

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

My submission on the Proposed Canterbury Air Regional Plan

Introduction: my submission mainly relates to the Timaru and surrounding areas of South Canterbury, including Washdyke, Geraldine and Waimate in particular..

NB: this air quality issue has been around for a very long time and it is now pleasing to know that firmer and more resolute action is being taken to help clean up the air pollution of this area. Several local areas suffers from significant air quality problems in the winter months in particular.

Re: P.3/7 Home Heating:

Open Fires: fully support the phasing out of open fires within the Timaru and surrounding areas. And that they be phased out by 31.01.15

Low emitting burners: that these not be allowed in new homes is supported. And agree that their installation in new homes not be allowed and should apply to all

homes when such heaters are replaced or upgraded.

Older style burners: while supporting their phase out in the medium term but not the proposed date. Ask that the phase out date be extended to at least 31.12.18 to allow for a longer period of time for their installation and for funding to be accumulated for their purchase and installation. And, if not replaced then ask that such burners be allowed to remain in situ so that they can be used as a back up source of heating and cooking when electric power supplies have been disrupted.

New ultra low emitting burners: support the installation of such burners and the proposed date, especially for new homes and as a replacement burner.

Use of dry seasoned wood: this provision is supported for all areas and should be made mandatory.

Education: more education, on the care and use of log burners, and the storage and drying of wet wood, is needed. So, would support much more education on the use and care of log burners and the storage and drying of wood.

Compliance: more compliance monitoring, to prevent smoke nuisance, would be supported. So ask for increased monitoring and advice provided for the users of smoky log burners.

Financial assistance: support more financial assistance and incentives across all sections of the community where needed. It is understood that holders of Community Service Cards may qualify for such financial assistance but others without cards may also need such assistance. Provisions should be made for financial assistance where there is a need across of all sectors of the community.

Other areas: there are several smaller town or communities within South Canterbury that do not appear to have been considered. Such communities include Twizel, Tekapo, Pleasant Point and Temuka which can contribute to some pollution of the air. The need to maintain clear air in the Mackenzie Basin is particularly important because of the observatory that is based there on Mt John. So, ask that some monitoring be undertaken in other areas, to ensure that the air quality in those places does not deteriorate significantly.

P3/10 & 4/24 Outdoor burning:

Urban areas: fully support the ban on burning combustible materials in outdoor urban areas. As smoke and fumes can be offensive to other residents in the area. So support that the present ban provisions be continued. Some education on this matter is needed as there are still occasional outdoor 'rubbish' fires within urban areas.

Rural Areas: here fires, even smaller fires, can have a wider impact on the air quality of the environment. And this can be seen from higher elevations throughout the area, including from higher parts of Timaru. And, stubble and vegetation burn-offs also cause highly visible smoke pollution of our usually clear skies, at certain times of the year. Such smoke pollution is not a good look especially when it is claimed that we are a clean and green country. And that the smoke can spread over much wider areas than just the burn site. There have been occasions when low lying smoke has obstructed views for drivers of vehicles on local roads. There has been at least one instance where the smoke, covering a roadway, was the cause of a traffic death. Much greater effort must be made to reduce substantially the incidences of smoke pollution in rural areas from burn-offs and burning generally in the open. So more effort is needed here to manage and reduce, more effectively, the smoke pollution within our local areas. In order to benefit the health of people and the quality of the environment generally.

Dust: this can be a problem in some areas especially at certain times of high winds. Especially in the Mackenzie Basin where dry bare soils are easily erode-able and create significant dust clouds where the scenic values are high and are an attraction for many people from far and wide. Dust can be localised in other areas as well and where possible determined efforts must be made to reduce this problem especially for the sake of the health of the public and possibly livestock.

Industry: there are several industries and other facilities, which also contribute to the pollution particle levels, and these sources of pollution need to be managed more effectively. Greater efforts should be made here to encourage such polluting industries and facilities to operate within the established guidelines. And also encourage or require such industries and facilities to use best practical guidelines so their particle emission levels are within the established limits. As well, all such operations should be encouraged or required to use the best known technology currently available at the present time.

Odour: this issue can be a contentious problem and a difficult one to manage. However the intention in the Draft Plan, to make efforts to manage odour sources before they become offensive, is fully supported. Guidelines should be developed and incorporated into the Draft Plan indicating the measures that should be taken to manage the sources of such odour occurrences before they become a serious nuisance. So, the adoption of odour management plans is supported as well as formal consents for odour producing industries and activities. Such as the intensive farming of animals including pigs and cattle where odours can be an issue.

In conclusion: there is much to support in this Draft Air Quality Plan as the need to make our air sheds cleaner is long overdue. As our smoky air is a serious problem especially at certain times of the year both for people's health and for the sake of the environment.. Along with the need to reduce the invisible particles down to statutory levels. However, ask that there not be a ridge adherence to some of the guidelines, especially for the phasing out of some types of burners.

Fraser B.Ross