

# Submission form

Tukuna mai ōu whakaaro

This is where you can have your say. It's easy to do: just fill in the form and post it to us using the Freepost number below.

**Submissions close at 5pm on Monday April 13, 2015.**

You may send your submission:

**By mail (no stamp required):** Freepost 1201, Environment Canterbury, PO Box 345, CHRISTCHURCH 8140

**Online:** Use the online form provided on our website [www.ecan.govt.nz/plans](http://www.ecan.govt.nz/plans).

Follow the instructions provided

**By email:** [ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz). Ensure your full name and address is included

OFFICE USE ONLY	
FILE REF: Comm PLAN 1525	DOCUMENT No:
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## Please fill in your contact details below

Your name Errol Johns

Your organisation and role in it (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Date 7-4-15

Tick the box if you wish to discuss your submission in person ☐

I do not wish my contact details to be made public ☐

All submissions are public documents. Copies will be published on the Environment Canterbury website.

Your submission	What do you want Environment Canterbury to do?
I find it odd that a council set up to protect the environment, would grant so many 'water take' consents for the on going dairy conversions, which in return sucks the local rivers so dry that we are then forced to consult a website to see if it is safe to take our children and dogs to these for a swim in summer.	I would like to see the amount of available water recalculated and re allocate all water consents granted to all farms with Centre Pivot irrigation schemes with new levels set which sees waterways able to maintain a constant flow sufficient to support fish life and the general health of the waterway
I realize we've had below average rainfall this year, but it still doesn't seem PRO	

Continued on next page

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Your submission	What do you want Environment Canterbury to do?
right that the dairy irrigators continue to pour water on in the heat of the day, simply because they have been allocated their share with the mindset that if they've payed for it then they have a right to use it. Does the environment have a say or does it not count because it doesn't make you money?	and to look at the amount of 'nutrients' dairy farms are putting on the land and in turn leading into these waterways.  I'm not against dairying however there are far friendlier ways to do it, these may cost more to the farmer, but is the environment we hand to our children not worth it? It is a shame to have seen the landscape of sth canterbury change so much in my life of 32 years and not for the better from what I see.

Continue your submission on additional pages if necessary.



Christchurch	Timaru	Kaikōura
PO Box 345	75 Church Street	Beach Road
Christchurch 8140	PO Box 550	PO Box 59
P: 03 365 3828	Timaru 7940	Kaikōura 7340
F: 03 365 3194	P: 03 687 7800	P: 03 319 5781
	F: 03 687 7808	F: 03 319 5809

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The issue of air quality is a confusing and poorly informed one at best.

If Ecan are public health officers concerned about peoples ability to breath, when are we going to be given some actual figures relating to increased hospital admissions regarding PM10 respiratory illness during winter months, and not including those simply related to the cooler damper weather. I'm out walking my dog for at least an hour 3 nights a week all year round and notice no difference from summer to winter.

Why do you constantly drum into us the need to burn dry firewood (which I totally agree with) however allow the constant removal of windbreaks on farm land to only be pushed into a pile and left to smoulder and smoke for the next month due to the green nature of the trees.

I feel the actual issue here is not the smoke produced, but rather the lack of breeze on the cooler winter months to shift it away.

If this is wrong why is it ok for farmers to still burn off stubble paddocks, producing alot of smoke

If we are expected to begin removing existing log burners how are we expected to come up with \$5000 to replace with a cleaner option (by the way, you can still make a clean air approved log burner smoke)

And will the hospital be asked to remove its coal fired boiler which is situated approximately 700 metres from the air monitoring site.

I would like to see less bullying tactics I realize there is a problem with smoke hanging about in winter but I fail to see the health related problems

I feel education is the best solution, possibly monitoring and door knocking those with smokey chimneys as I said putting wet wood on a clean air approved log burner will smoke as much as an older appliance trying to

PTO

burn wet wood.

Or possibly have all outdoor heatpump units mounted on rooftops pointed in the same direction to create a breeze to move the smoke? - Just an option.

Education may take a bit of time much like the transition to recycling bins however it will make for a happier community in the long run

Thanks for your time  
Erol Johns



# Where there's smog there's overreaction

Winter can be a bit of a shock for many migrants to South Canterbury, particularly those of us from the north.

When I arrived last April, the first advice I was given was to lay in a good stock of firewood.

I have to be honest and admit that I didn't think that would be necessary.

But my first electricity bill, and my first five-degree frost, soon convinced me otherwise.

Although I was too late to get anything dry.

Nevertheless, that log burner in my lounge was a family saviour.

I also noticed the smog when I ventured outdoors after 6pm. However, that was rare given the air temperature and I noticed it had all generally dissipated by morning.

Then I read that ECan — this strange beast that is the province's regional council — was talking about the smog as if it was a killer shroud and we were in 1950s London.

And how they were going to clean up Timaru's air by compulsion if necessary.

This was accompanied by a hectoring woman, frowning out from the back of local buses, accusing me of not knowing how to start a fire properly. Yes, Timaru's smog was all my fault.

Then the local editorial writer weighed in, saying

## Laying Down the Laws

by  
Michael Laws



Timaru had to clean up its act.

Except there's a small problem. Exactly, what is the problem?

Where's the proof that the occasional night of lingering fire fumes causes any problem at all? There's been none. In fact, the lack of factual evidence has been startling.

In its place there has been a misguided fanaticism that "something must be done" when there isn't really a problem at all.

There are no health problems, and there have been no hospital admissions or respiratory attacks as a consequence.

And why's that? Because 99% of Timaru is indoors on the freezing nights that produce the worst fire smoke.

And the other 1% soon will be — because no-one wants to stand outside at 10pm, freezing. Strange that.

Which is why I say: we must resist these so called "clean air" advocates.

All they will achieve is the doubling of our already

expensive electricity bills and that will really send people to hospital, especially the poor, the elderly and the vulnerable because they can no longer afford to heat their homes properly.

And anybody who wants to donate this soft northern family some of the local log, please don't let me stop you. Come winter, I'll burn with gratitude and pride.

## RETIREMENT VILLAGES

I've said this before, but it's worth the repeat — South Canterbury has got something special going. School numbers are up, business is booming, new businesses are arriving and new retirement villages are being built.

The complex under construction at Elloughton Gardens is the latest. They are good business for any town and attract solid citizens, well-heeled and with a real interest in volunteer work. Retirement villages are not rest-homes — they're vibrant communities.

And they confirm the ongoing desirability of Timaru.

If you'd like to chat, I can be emailed on [michaellaws@timaru@gmail.com](mailto:michaellaws@timaru@gmail.com) or message me on my Facebook page.





**When in need . . .** The number of publicly accessible defibrillators has grown in Fairlie. The town's newest one is available from the Fairlie Four Square.

IMAGE: COURIER

# Life-saving device at store

Fairlie's Four Square has the equipment to become a life-saver in more ways than one.

The shop, which sells various household items, now has an automated external defibrillator (AED) — one of at least four located throughout the town for public use.

Mackenzie St John area committee chairman Stephen Whittaker said the AED was accessible from the outside of the building in Main St.

The defibrillator was located in a locked box. When a person requiring the machine rang 111, a St John staff member would provide the lock's combination number, Mr Whittaker said.

Further instructions would be provided so someone could administer CPR while the defibrillator was prepared for

Mr Whittaker said the Mackenzie District Council building, also located in Main St, had also received an AED.

"It used to be in the community centre, but we shifted it out because it wasn't accessible."

Another AED was available at the Fairlie Fire Station.

There were also some at the town's St John base, but they were not accessible from the outside of the building, Mr Whittaker said.

He understood the community's AED machines had not yet been used.

Defibrillators were also available throughout the nearby Albury district, including at Albury School, Monavale Hall, Mount Nessing Golf Club's club house and Cave Store. Each were in a locked cabinet, but were publicly

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