From:	D & N Anderson
To:	Mailroom Mailbox
Cc:	shaun & lynn lissington; themound; amuridairying@xtra.co.nz; davidcroft@xtra.co.nz
Subject:	CLWRP, PC5, Submission of S Lissington, N Anderson, D Croft, S Neill, A Benton
Date:	Friday, 11 March 2016 4:39:40 p.m.
Attachments:	Plan Change 5 Submission Signed and Scanned 11March2016.pdf

Please find attached:

CLWRP, PC5, Submission of S Lissington, N Anderson, D Croft, S Neill, A Benton.

Duncan & Nicky Anderson
Auchenbrae Farm Limited
79 Banks Road
Rotherham
North Canterbury 7379
P:03 315 6330
Duncan: 0275 629 965
Nicky: 0275 315 997

To: Canterbury Regional Council
Freepost 1201
Plan Change 5 to the CLWRP
Environment Canterbury
PO Box 345
Christchurch 8140

Submitters: Andrew & Anne-Mary Benton, Amuri Dairying Ltd, 391 St Leonards Rd, RD1, Culverden. amuridairying@xtra.co.nz (021) 570 235
Duncan & Nicky Anderson, Auchenbrae Farm, 79 Banks Road, Rotherham 7379, duncan-nicky@amuri.net , (03)3156330
David Croft, Hillcrest Farm, 58 Cemetery Road , Culverden 7392. davidcroft@xtra.co.nz (03)3158147 (024)7311553
Shaun & Lyn Lissington, Ben Lissington, Jamie Lissington, Achray Road, Rotherham 7379, shaun.lynn@amuri.net, (027) 315 0039
Stuart Neill, 78 Cemetery Road, Culverden 7392. themound@xtra.co.nz (027)2215001

Submission on: Proposed Plan Change 5 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan

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Trade competition

We could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

Background:

We are a group of dairy farmers who farm in the Amuri Basin.

Farmers	Type of ownership	Community links	Size of business, hectares, cow numbers	Dry Stock
Shaun & Lyn Lissington Ben Lissington Jamie Lissington	2 generations living & working on the farm.	Bought farm in this basin in 2000.	Own and operate 2 dairy farming properties in the Hurunui / Waiau area. We milk 1100 cows on 330 effective hectares and employ another 4 married men. Our family business is driven by low cost, high production sustainable practices.	Our young stock are all grazed off farm in the Canterbury Region and most cows are wintered off farm in the Hurunui.

Duncan & Nicky Anderson	3rd (& soon to be 4th) generation living & working on the farm.	Been farming all of life on this farm. Have always been active in and proud of this community; past member of school Board of Trustees, Cricket & Rugby clubs' player & coach, involved in provision of health care in basin & wider Hurunui, Amuri St John fundraising & committee member, A & P Show President & committee members.	405 ha owned and 77ha leased 1600 cows Originally sheep farmers, we started replacing border dyke irrigation with centre pivots in 2002. As sheep farming could no longer support the operating costs of the developed farm, we moved towards dairy support, then converted to dairy in 2012 as we needed the farm to sustain more than 1-2 families. Being newly converted, up to date technology is in use. Currently 5 families and two single people are supported by this farm.	All dry stock including cows over winter are grazed at brother's property 5km away.
David & Voray Croft	We are 2nd generation farmers on our patch of paradise.	My father shifted from Amberley in 1962 to Culverden to start his independent farming career. It was always the joke back then "that the rabbits had to bring their lunch if they were to visit Culverden". So when irrigation was talked about in the '70s and came to fruition in the '80s farmers gave a sigh of relief that finally they would have sustainable businesses.	Over the years we have built up a business to a total of 1020Ha. This includes 2 Dairy platforms (167Ha and 200Ha) milking 1450 cows, based on the regular growth pattern of the grass over our irrigated season. We are a grass based self contained dairy operation employing 5 single people and 6 families, and with a focus on being financially & environmentally sustainable.	We winter our own cows and rear and graze all the young stock.
Stuart Neil	I came to Culverden in 1996 as a lower order Sharemilker, progressed to 50/50 sharemilking and am presently Operations Manager and Equity partner & Director /Equity partner, as described.	My children and others on our farms attend the local school and support local sports clubs.	Operations Manager and Equity partner in a 650 cow dairy farm, and director and equity partner in a 660 cow sharemilking operation. We employ eight families in our business, we aim to be environmentally sustainable low input farmers.	

Andrew & Anne-Mary Benton	Amuri Dairying Ltd is a farming company owned by Andrew & Anne-Mary Benton	Anne-Mary and I together with our four children moved to Culverden in 2000 after progressed to farm ownership from share milking in the Waikato. We have both been heavily involved our children's schooling, sporting and arts based activities. And also various community farming boards.	We purchased in the Amuri because of the reliable irrigation water and the strong community. In 2000 we took what some said was a huge risk by converting our border dyke irrigation to pivot spray, and the success and this move has enabled us to expand our business to 4 farms milking 5000 cows, and providing dairy support. As a business we are focused on being industry leaders in all areas of our farming operation, especially providing a safe and progressive working environment for our 35 staff.	We are 80% self-contained for our young stock and winter grazing requirements.

Hearings

We wish to be heard in support of our submission; and we would be prepared to consider presenting our submission in a joint case with others making a similar submission at any hearing.

Submission:

Our submission is recorded in the following table.

Part A or B	Page #	Policy # or rule #	Name of policy or rule	Support / oppose	Reason	Relief sought
A	Multiple	Multiple	Farm Portal Concept	Support in part	We accept that the farm portal can be a useful tool to evaluate GMP and that we as farmers need to operate GMP.	
A	Multiple	Multiple	Farm Portal Concept	Oppose	Our concern is over the **transparency of the impact and detail of individual proxies**; how they affect the Baseline GMP Loss Rate and GMP Loss Rate through the portal. We need to know how the proxies affect our Overseer files in order to understand whether the resulting GMP N Loss Rates and the Baseline	GMP needs to be transparent. We need to understand the impact and detail of the proxies in order to make good management decisions to ensure our Loss Rates are in line with GMP. As a simplified example, if we know that a proxy dealing with irrigation has a similar effect on Loss Rate to one which deals with wintering

Part A or B	Page #	Policy # or rule #	Name of policy or rule	Support / oppose	Reason	Relief sought
					GMP Loss Rates are fair and accurate. This is a start point to understanding the impact of Plan Change 5 on our businesses, families and communities. In the absence of this transparency, we fear that Plan Change 5 will not meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations, nor enable social, economic & cultural wellbeing, and is not in line with the purpose and principles of the Resource Management Act 1991. With concern about the transparency and therefore the appropriateness of the proxies in mind, and understanding that there will be farms which are 'outliers' (e.g. farms which have taken new technology up early on), we think farmers should be able to access an alternative pathway for consent.	cows on platform, we can assess the cost of compliance in relation to each, and make management decisions accordingly. **We support Fonterra's submissions on the potential problems with proxies and an alternative pathway for consent.**

Submitters Names	Signatures
Andrew & Anne-Mary Benton	
Duncan & Nicky Anderson	
David Croft	
Shaun & Lyn Lissington	
Stuart Neill	

Date: 11 March 2016