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**From:** terry <terry@amuri.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 11 March 2018 10:34 a.m.  
**To:** Mailroom Mailbox  
**Subject:** Submission to Ecan

Hello I am here to express my concerns at the lack of planning for Climate change and the very small amounts of money allocated to address this issue.

Long term plans are great; they focus money and thought for a long time. They enable sound budgeting and wise planning that is less likely to be interfered with by politics. But where in this long term plan is the future proofing of Canterbury from the effects of Climate Change? It is necessary to consider freshwater management and indigenous biodiversity (I've noticed and conversed with Ecan for the last four years hoping to change the emphasis from business to environment concerns hurray you've finally done it) but unless Climate change is planned for freshwater and biodiversity are lost causes. How will fresh water in our wonderful Canterbury rivers continue to flow if there is no snow falling on the souther alps? How will farmers fare then? will the rivers protection of flow levels, instigated by Ecan, continue to exist?

What happens with our aquafurs when Climate Change pushes the sea levels levels higher? Will the pressure allow salt water to infiltrate the aqua furs? If this happens we will have a water crisis and a lot of people will face serious consequences. Life threatening maybe? Has any research been done about this? If so why has it not been published?

Your regional leadership is lacking. Where is the collaboration with Government for extra funding to begin work to make Canterbury's coastline, and it's along coast line, able to withstand sea rises and all of the problems associated with it. All of the little villages along this coastline with the people living there. How are you going to act before the houses are swamped by high seas? Gore bay south, hell there is an awful lot of small villages to work with and every one of them with a different set of issues to be considered. I think you have allocated 2% of the budget to this! My oh my that is tiny!

Think about how much of this land is low lying. Think of the loss of farmland to swamp as the water spreads inland under the surface. How do you plan to rescue people and stock? How many will face injury or death in a disaster? Already there are issues with salt water contaminating Kaiapoi's water. What have you done to help fix this problem? Only 5% of the funding budget haas been allocated for coastal environments and hazards? Is this enough?

Much has been done to help farmers make considerable profits in North Canterbury and south of Christchurch by supporting irrigation and using water from big rivers that source their water from the main divide (It's snow fed water) Ecan has shown leadership here. It has become apparent to all that it is not without its problems, pollution of ground water and rivers. The Hurunui district has serious pollution problems in many of its rivers and I think the ground water and in spite of all of these warning signs the Council has voted to use rate payers money to fund the private water scheme for the Hawarden / Waikari area. The silence from Ecan is deafening. Okay this isn't set in concrete yet but ..... where is your voice? Leadership? Will the Hurunui become 'the brown turd of North Canterbury' before anyone in a position of power acts or is it already too late.

Not content with the above mentioned damage to the environment Ecan already has allowed the Mackenzie country to irrigate large portions of the land destroying the historic beauty of the area and up setting the balance of the natural dry land that it has traditionally been. Will this mean that tourism fall off in numbers? How will ecan protect the pristine lakes and waterways in the area? Consents for dairy conversions have increased dramatically along with consents for irrigation. Leadership goes hand in hand with setting boundaries. The environmental care needs a much higher rating of funding than your budget allows.

Ecan has shown a dismal record of care in the past ten years. The environment in North Canterbury is an example I can use to demonstrate how down graded it has become. The Hurunui, Waitoхи, Ashley, Waimakariri rivers are a few I can name all showing high levels of pollution in some parts of their course. River beds are choked with foreign weeds and often the rivers flow is very low or not at all. What was once shingle braids are now overgrown nightmares for birds. Is it any wonder that our bird population is suffering. These birds have no where to nest! This neglect is shameful!

Protecting biodiversity requires the whole community to act responsibly if we are to rid ourselves of possums, stoats, weasels, ferrets, rabbits, hares, magpies and hedgehogs. Ecan needs to stand up and lead us forward to the future as well as encouraging farmers to fence off stands of native bush to provide stop off points for birds moving from the mountains to the sea in comfort. They also need to stop council workers from grading down manuka growing on the side of the single roads in the Hurunui district. Acts of vandalism I would call that.

Has Ecan begun research on what will happen to our rivers when Climate Change accretes, and will they share this disturbing information with us? That is leadership. Emergency Management is only 8% of your budget. Is this enough?

Transport, the movement of goods and people around Canterbury is presently mainly motorcars and trucks. It's about the most polluting way of doing it. Where is a conversation about a rail network? Why haven't you done this? Think of the fuel savings, the lowering of pollutants! Think about speed and efficiency! Think for example one train a day carrying waste to Kate Valley taking all those trucks off the road with a return trip to Lyttelton delivering logs to the wharf. More trucks off the road! Think of being able to board a commuter train at Amberley or Timaru and having a safe but high speed trip to Christchurch with a bike on board so one could take advantage of the cycle ways in Christchurch. Or connecting up with small buses or a mono rail to get about. Think about the mental health benefits, fitter people and the building of a more robust community with friendships created on the commute to Christchurch. This would grow stronger communities.

Think about all the SUV's that would no longer travel with one person per vehicle on our roads. This conversation was begun many years ago, before the earthquakes struck. The idea was suggested that Christchurch limit it's size and that the small towns dotted around Canterbury stay small so that farmland would not be changed. It was a good plan and sound. But the earthquakes came along and business was allowed to dictate the game so now we have urban development running from the Alps to the sea ( about where Pegasus is), with limited info structure and all that farmland gone! Bad Planning? Yes it is! Rural protection? Not on your nelly! Public transport? Use your SUV! Air quality? What, but don't put in a wood burner! We now have big towns crammed with escapees from Christchurch all commuting to Christchurch. That is a real problem that is really only being tinkered with right now. please think outside the square and get radical! New Zealand needs you to now to save our future.

If we want to make sound change for the good, how do we fund it? Firstly all of these ideas could not flourish if they were required to make a profit and why should they? The making of a profit has led us down a path that has caused most of our environmental problems. You can drop the label Bus-can and concentrate on Environment Canterbury instead, so here are some suggestions that other countries have used and some of them don't make a profit:

Charge for supermarket parking (supermarkets are usually situated away from public transport places. They are designed for cars. Supermarkets make big profits.) Ask businesses to subsidise their workers commuting to the work place and home.

Do we need big buses all the time? Do they all need to travel through the central bus exchange? How can we simplify the system and meet peoples needs?

Charge commuters extra who travel with only one person in a car to Christchurch from outlying towns.

Use trains from Timaru and Amberley, Rangiora, Kaiapoi also from Sheffield, Springfield and down the line to Christchurch Keep building cycleways, keeping them off road as much as possible.

Charge one person cars using roads in rush hour traffic.

Educate and enforce families with the ethos .... children should not be driven to school or home again. Use public transport, walk or bike instead.

The whole of Canterbury should pay for public transport. Years ago London changed how it moved people and created the underground. To get people to use it they charged people, via costly stickers on windscreens, to drive

the streets of central London. Most people left their cars at home and used the underground and walked. Why could we not do the same?

This is future proofing our province making us safer, smarter and less polluting. Remember less cars on roads means it is much safer to ride a bike. Speaking of Leadership and income should Ecan not be having a conversation with Government , big business and the consumer.

All of these ideas I have mentioned are a bit like moving back to the future but if we want fresh air to breath, to be able to play, fish and swim in our rivers, enjoy biodiversity and grow our own food. If we want to mitigate Climate Change, and we need to, there isn't a choice, we must make some major changes to how we live. The consequences if we do nothing are bigger storms, higher sea levels and a greater probability of injury or death. I beg all of you listening to my submission to take your head out of the sand. Climate Change is real it's already happening in small ways right now! It will accelerate and the effects well get bigger and more damaging. Ask yourself the question, "Do I want my name associated with not acting quickly enough to stop injury from Climate Change?" The fastest way to begin this is to have an election right now Time is running out for us all!

Oh and yes I would like to be there to present my submission in person. (I do have a hearing loss so help to be able to answer questions would be necessary)

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