

Before the Canterbury Regional Council and the Ashburton District Council

In the matter of the Resource Management Act 1991

And

In the matter of The Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited
Consents

**Supplementary Evidence of Douglas Rankin on behalf of Whitewater NZ
Incorporated**

Dated: 22 April 2018

STATEMENT REGARDING THE WHITEWATER NZ POSITION ON THE RDRML CONSENT APPLICATION

BACKGROUND

1. The evidence in chief of Douglas Rankin for and on behalf of the joint submitters encapsulates the collective consensual views of their members and associated parties. The joint evidence as it stands does not reflect the entirety of the Whitewater NZ position.
2. For the purposes of clarity Whitewater NZ wishes to independently state its position on some aspects of the consents that are sought. Our co-submitters support our exercising our right to express the following views.

CONSENT TO TAKE WATER

3. Whitewater NZ strongly opposes the further degradation of the river that will occur as a result of the proposed 10 cumec take, and in particular when the river has been afforded protection by a Water Conservation Order. We believe that the Rangitata River is at risk of being permanently damaged by the cumulative effect of the water extracted from it, and remain concerned that this consent may be the final straw for this precious taonga.
4. Whitewater NZ also supports the other parties to our joint submission who object to the proposed 10 cumec take by RDRML from the Rangitata River.
5. For the reasons outlined in the joint submission and in our evidence, Whitewater NZ and the other parties to the joint submission ask that the consent application for the 10 cumec take be declined. However, should the consent be granted we would seek the mitigation described in paragraphs 150 to 156 in the evidence in chief of Dr Rankin.

APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO BUILD A WHITE WATER COURSE

6. The applicant has applied for consent to take water from the Rangitata River, and, as part of that consent, build a white water course adjacent to the Klondyke Storage Pond outlet. However, what is proposed at present is unclear for a number of reasons. Mr Ben Curry, CEO of RDRML, has indicated¹ that a course with more than one wave may be considered, the key consideration is to produce a facility of value and use to the wider community. The current proposal does not state this and we believe a multi-feature course would be of far greater value to the community. Therefore we would like the consent to allow for the construction of such a facility and not restrict the applicant to the very limited facility that is described in their application.
7. If the consent to take water is granted, either with or without the mitigation described in paragraphs 150 to 156 of Dr Rankin's evidence in chief, we ask that the white water feature/course be an integral part of that consent, including consent conditions that

¹ Dr Rankin evidence in chief, paragraph 158.

the applicant design, build and operate the white water feature/course in conjunction with experts approved by Whitewater NZ and that the applicant maintain the amenity and provide unfettered use of it, and that the proposed take is contingent upon meeting these conditions for the duration of the consent.

RECOMMENDED CONSENT CONDITIONS FOR THE WHITE WATER COURSE

8. In order to ensure the necessary investigations and design and build are carried out to ensure a successful valued course results we would request the following conditions.
 - (a) That the take of water is only allowed after the white water course has been completed and commissioned and is performing to the satisfaction of its designer
 - (b) That the ongoing take of water is dependent on the continued provision of the white water course for community use and its continuing to operate as designed
 - (c) That the design of the white water course is undertaken by an internationally recognised firm with experience in the design, construction and operation of such facilities, with RDRML and Whitewater NZ having an input into the design brief, and that RDRML chooses the designer from a selection offered by Whitewater NZ
 - (d) That the designer of the white water course oversees the construction of the course and any alterations to it in order to ensure it meets their design specification
 - (e) That the course and its surroundings are maintained by RDRML, use is provided free of charge, and the facility continues to function as intended by the designer for the duration of the consent to take water
 - (f) That the white water course operates between the hours of 10am and 6pm for no less than 40 weekend days from 1 October to 30 April and between the hours of 10am and 4pm for no less than 20 weekend days from 1 May and 30 September
 - (g) That the white water course operates for no less than one day per week on either a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from midday until sunset during the period 1 October to 30 April
 - (h) That RDRML publicly notify the intended days the course will be operating no less than 1 week ahead for midweek operation and no less than 2 weeks ahead for weekend operation
 - (i) That RDRML provide an additional 100 hours of course operation, per calendar year, if requested, via Whitewater NZ, for specified events (e.g. school courses).

- (j) That the consent to take water shall be forfeit if the construction of the white water course is not completed or if the conditions above are not met.

Doug Rankin

On behalf of and for the Board
Whitewater NZ