

BEFORE THE CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL

IN THE MATTER      Of an application by the Christchurch City Council for a  
discharge permit (CRC190445) under the Resource  
Management Act 1991

BETWEEN            KERRIE AND ANTONIO RODRIGUES  
Submitter

A N D                THE CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Regional Authority

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EVIDENCE OF KERRIE RODRIGUES

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**TABLED AT HEARING**

Application: CRC190445.....

.....  
Date: 9/11/2018.....

## INTRODUCTION

- 1 My name is Kerrie Rodrigues and my husband is Antonio Rodrigues. We are the owners 3,5,7,9 and 11 Earlham Street. These are small residential size blocks in respect of which we pay residential rates.
- 2 The location of our properties is identified in **Appendix A** of our submission and **attached** to this statement of evidence.
- 3 We have owned our properties and lived in our dwelling at 7 Earlham Street since 1990, over 28 years. In our home we have raised our older daughter Jessica and our son Antonio who is 11 years old.
- 4 Until recently my elderly Mother and Father lived with us at our home but they had to move to Oxford due to ill effects on their health because of the exposure to damp cold and vermin and access issues to and from our house during winter.
- 5 Prior to the Canterbury Quakes our property was not affected by any flooding or ponding.
- 6 Since the quakes our property has been repeatedly flooded and inundated with water which also ponds under our house and across our land for months during winter.
- 7 This flooding has had horrendous and intolerable negative impacts on our health, well-being, residential amenity and quality of life.

## SCOPE OF EVIDENCE

- 8 In my evidence we address the following matters:
  - a) Causes of flood and ponding issues affecting our property
  - b) Flooding and Land Filling observations
  - c) Conclusions and relief sought

## CAUSES OF FLOOD AND PONDING ISSUES AFFECTING OUR PROPERTY

- 9 This section summarises the **Rodrigues Statement May 2018** document which we filed with our submission as **Appendix B**. The key issues are:
  - a) The Canterbury Earthquakes have damaged our land and we believe we are now in a basin
  - b) We are effected by the overflowing of the Styx River when at full capacity

- c) CERA and Neighboring land has been extensively filled having a negative impact on our properties (Please see **Appendix F Plan showing flooding and filling around 5 Earlham Street** of **Appendix B** of our submission).
- d) The CCC has allowed property owners to rebuild around us from 930 Lower Styx Road and on Earlham Street
- e) The Brooklands Lagoon is now entering Earlham Street since the 2016 Kaikoura Quakes
- f) The CCC has failed to provide any mitigation strategy for our property or Brooklands to prevent future flooding/ponding.

10 In summary, our property now sits in a basin surrounded by higher land so that when we have a rain event and the river overtops the banks water cannot drain away due to secondary flow paths being effected by infilling of land.

11 We are very concerned that the issue of flooding and ponding will get worse in the future due to (a) the impact of the Councils' global stormwater network resource consent application (Consent CRC190445) and (b) the impact of global warming, more frequent high rain-fall events, sea level rise and tidal surges. These matters are discussed in **Appendix C** of our submission.

#### **FLOODING AND LAND FILLING OBSERVATIONS**

12 This section summarises the **Rodrigues Observations May 2018** document regarding post-earthquake flooding, ponding and filling of adjacent land, which we filed with our submission as **Appendix D**.

13 My family faces regular flooding events, consequential ponding under our home and around our properties. The negative effects as follows:

- a) Water so deep we have to wear gum boots to enter home, causing access issues, mud and stinking stagnant water
- b) Mould on curtain walls and bedding and extremely damp conditions
- c) Vermin including mice within our house and Rats screaming drowning under floors as floodwaters rise
- d) Blow flies from dead rats under floors
- e) Live worms on bedroom floors
- f) Thousands of Mosquitoes from Stagnant water
- g) Access issues entering our property and house

h) Personal Health effects, detailed in **Appendix E - Canterbury Medical Officer of Health by letter dated 12 June 2018** of our submission and in **Appendix I Letter from Dr Stephen Baker 6 April 2016 to Appendix B Rodrigues Statement May 2018** of our submission. This letter was not included in our submission as there are sensitivities around the personal information contained in this letter. However I table a hard copy of this letter today. I request that this letter is not included in the documents uploaded to the website.

14 The stormwater discharges proposed by the applications will increased the frequency and severity of occasions that the Styx River overtops its banks and will exacerbate flooding and ponding events affecting the submitters' property.

15 Flooding and ponding from the Styx River is already precariously close to inundating the submitters' home. The applications will increase risk of inundation of their home, inevitably affect larger areas of submitters' property and result in longer periods of ponding.

16 These outcomes will cause significant and unacceptable additional harm to the submitters' health, safety, amenity, property and quality of life.

## CONCLUSIONS

17 My husband and are extremely concerned about the immediate and long term effects that these issues are having on our family.

18 We feel extremely stressed, depressed, and trapped in this situation. Our property was our asset but now is a liability we have no way to leave.

19 Granting this consent would increase the adverse effects on our property.

20 We seek that this application be declined insofar as it relates to the discharge of stormwater into the Styx River;

21 Or alternatively that the application be granted on terms and conditions that comprehensively address the issues discussed above regarding flooding and ponding on and around our property at Earlham Street.

22 Thank you for the opportunity to appear today. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Kerrie Rodrigues

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

**Appendix A** – Location of Submitter's property





Appendix A

