

From: [Gab Armstrong](#)
To: [Mailroom Mailbox](#)
Subject: Plan Change 7
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I am writing regarding Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan ((LWRP).

I am finding it hard to believe that an organisation that should be doing everything in its power to promote and ensure the cleanest and healthiest environment for New Zealanders, are considering allowing nitrate levels to continue to increase in our groundwater. We know that nitrates leech under the Waimakariri River and into Canterbury's aquifers and to allow them to continue to increase, is abhorrent.

That a select group of people can have so much power over other citizens' futures and health, via a natural resource that is vital to us, and not want to do their utmost to save its quality, is so frustrating. I'm sure these individuals wouldn't intentionally want to cause harm to the future health of fellow New Zealanders, but by allowing the levels of nitrates to continue to increase in the system, by not decreasing allowable levels enough, within a quick enough time frame, that is exactly what is happening. There are known links between bowel cancer and nitrate ingestion, and the fact that as a nation we have a huge cancer rate, should make anyone want to do all that can be done to ensure risk is minimised, if not irradiated.

Christchurch has some of the best drinking water in the world, and to think that is at risk due to farming in places that are not ideally suitable for intensive farming, and/or bad farming practices not being changed quickly enough, is heartbreaking. I am a farming advocate, but certainly not at the expense of a city's water supply. How can that be justified?

Why not keep the aquifers as pure as possible, as once nitrates are in them, they are near impossible to remove, how unfair for future generations.

Please think seriously about this plan change and the harm that could come about to our health via water quality if everything is not done to ensure nitrate levels are decreased as fast as possible. In the future someone will need to be held accountable if nitrates are found in Canterbury's drinking water, don't let it be ECAN.

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Sent from my