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**To:** [Mailroom Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Plan change 7 to the LWRP Submission  
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1. I support making changes to the nitrate levels allowable in the artesian water in Canterbury however the limits have been set too high and put both the aquatic systems in the water and humans drinking the water in danger.

2. The limit should be set at .55. At this level, the aquatic life can survive. We need this life to be maintained to ensure the purity of our water supplies. As well the level of 155 is below the .87 level where colorectal cancer was found to be increased in the study undertaken.

It cannot be a coincidence that New Zealand has high levels of colorectal cancer and this is particularly true of Canterbury with its high level of nitrates.

3. We need a precautionary approach. Take the example of the blue babies caused by high levels of nitrates. It has been advertised in such a way as to imply that the levels are oik unless you are pregnant or actually have a blue baby. What damage is being done before the baby actually turns blue?? What damage happens to the mother? or father?

4. The danger of colorectal cancer is being minimized because it is in the self interest of irrigators to do so! It is essential that each of the submissions written by people who irrigate or who benefit from irrigation are read as written by someone whose self interest is being threatened. I get the feeling they are being read as if they know more, because they are on the ground. Not that they are very likely to be biased because it is in their self interest to keep the nitrate levels high.

5. Some farmers are working hard to minimize the nitrates going into the aquaphers. It is unfair to these farmers to allow other farmers to continue to pollute our water. Both get the bad reputation, and one has fewer costs.

6. It is essential to take into account the special circumstances in Canterbury. Our soils make the nitrate problem even worse. As well the city of Christchurch is dependent on the aquaphers for drinking water. It is completely unfair that a few people are allowed to ruin the water for a whole city.

7. The intensive farming of dairy cows in the Canterbury Region has happened over the last 10-20 years. The farmers have been happy to enjoy the high profits in the good years. they should now accept that there has to be regulations that limit the number of cowx that they can graze on this land.

8. It is going to be unfair. It is going to hurt some farmers. But that is what business has always been like. The unfairness experienced by the farmers is nothing compared with unfairness of the people whose family members or even themselves have had colorectal cancer. caused by nitrates in their water. They are the true victims. Not the farmers.

9. It is the Governments job to protect the citizens first. Protecting the environment next. and protecting businesses comes after both of these.

In summary I want the nitrate levels allowed to be .55- anything higher is dangerous to people and the environment. And I want a strong enforcement action plan in place, where the people who exceed the limit face a high penalty. No matter if they a Judge or the son of the Prime Minister!

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