

From: nicky.a.hyslop@gmail.com
To: [Mailroom Mailbox](#)
Subject: HyslopSubmissionPC7Sept19
Date: Thursday, 12 September 2019 8:38:25 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

Attached is our submission for PC7.

Kind Regards

Nicky Hyslop

SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 7 TO THE CANTERBURY LAND AND WATER REGIONAL PLAN

Clause 5 First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991

TO: Proposed Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan

Environment Canterbury
PO Box 345
Christchurch 8140

By email: mailroom@ecan.govt.nz

Name of submitter:

1 Jonty & Nicky Hyslop

Address: 411 Pleasant Point HW
RD 5
Timaru 7975

Contact: Nicky Hyslop

Email: nicky.a.hyslop@gmail.com

Trade competition statement:

2 Jonty & Nicky Hyslop could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

Proposal this submission relates to is:

3 This submission is on proposed Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (**PC7**) (**Proposal**).

The specific provisions of PC7 that this submission relates to:

4 This submission relates to:

4.1 Part B of PC7 (Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora sub-region component of PC7) in its entirety.

Submission

5 Background

Jonty and Nicky Hyslop farm Levels Estate, approximately 5km from Timaru, between Pleasant Point and Washdyke. Levels Estate is a sixth generation farm and was converted to irrigation by Jonty and Nicky in 2002/2003 and took up shares in Opuha Water Limited (OWL) to irrigate 206ha of the 220ha property.

Levels Estate is an intensive sheep/beef and arable property.

Since the initial conversion to irrigation, ongoing significant investment in improved irrigation infrastructure has been made to improve water efficiency (from 26ha of border dyke to 206ha of gun and Kline irrigation to pivots and lateral spray irrigation and soil moisture meter technology and telemetry).

As owners and managers of Levels Estate we are committed to continuous improvement that encapsulates good environmental, economic and social aspects of our farming business but also the impacts our farming activities has on our wider community and natural resources.

Through OWL, we have a Farm Environment Plan in place and in February 2019 have been independently audited with an A result.

In 2019 we obtained a Land Use Consent in line with the requirements of PC5 going forward.

As the fifth generation of family farming Levels Estate we take our responsibility of stewardship seriously, not only in wanting to leave our land and farming business in better heart than when we began our farming journey but for generations to come. The understanding of good stewardship has changed and will continue to do so and we must be open to adapting our farming practices as we learn.

We must also be able to operate our farming business profitably or we cannot continue to invest in technology and changes in farming systems that enable us to be sustainable in the short, medium and long term. Our farming business profitability is fundamentally underpinned by our access to reliable water for irrigation. Without this reliability, not only is our current farming system undermined but we will significantly limit our future land use opportunities. We are interested in exploring higher land value options but all of these have a requirement for reliable irrigation.

OWL supply us and 245 other farming shareholders with reliable water for irrigation as well as a backup for Timaru district for both industrial and domestic water supply. Their ability to continue to do this not only affects our family farming business but also our surrounding community who we partner, work and engage with for a wide range of rural and social services. This is not just an economic concern but also an environmental concern due to OWL providing significant augmentation to the Opihi river during summer dry months that would otherwise leave the Opihi River riverbed dry (occurred frequently prior to the dam being built) and cause significant negative impacts to the instream health.

We refer to Opuha Water Limited submission in regards to the background of the Opuha Dam and are in full support of their submission.

6 Jonty and Nicky Hyslop's Concerns on PC7

There are several parts of the proposed Part B of PC7 (Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora sub-region component of PC7) that will not allow us to continue to operate profitably and as a shareholder in OWL we are really concerned about the ability OWL will have to manage the lake, dam and river to ensure good environmental, economic and community outcomes.

We are alarmed at the Step 2 minimum flows, Table 14(v) from 2030, being proposed for the OTOP region which will severely restrict irrigation shareholder reliability, particularly in the upper above dam catchment and therefore erode shareholder confidence in OWL and put at risk the overall company's future financial position.

Essentially ignoring the learnings and importance of the Opuha Environmental Flow Release Advisory Group (OEFRG) that has been an important community input into managing (informing Opuha's proposed Adaptive Flow Management Regime) the Opihi river over the last 10 years is incredulous given that the fundamental cornerstone of CWMS is community collaboration. While PC7 has referred to "Adaptive Management", the framework proposed to achieve this is at odds with the learnings from the OEFRG involvement and as OWL has modelled will leave our Opihi river high and dry in years of severe summer dry conditions.

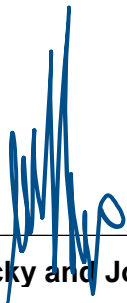
The OTOP sub-regional process has been rushed with several key components of work that should inform the zone committee and its recommendations to ECAN not completed. This

includes both adequate economic and environmental assessments of the impacts of changes in minimum flows, particularly Step 2. While we understand that the Canterbury Act finishes in October 2019, there is no excuse for ECAN not to have provided our sub region with adequate planning and resources as has been provided to other subregions to ensure an informed community outcome.

Nicky and Jonty Hyslop are in full support of OWL's submission of Part B of PC7 (Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora sub-region component of PC7) in its entirety.

Wish to be Heard:

- 7 Jonty & Nicky Hyslop wish to be heard in support of this submission.
- 8 Jonty & Nicky Hyslop would be prepared to consider presenting a joint case with others making similar submissions at the hearing.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Nicky and Jonty Hyslop', is written over a horizontal line.

Nicky and Jonty Hyslop

Date: 13 September 2019