

From: [Office - B.A. Murray Ltd](#)
To: [Mailroom Mailbox](#)
Cc: [Waimak NGE](#)
Subject: Plan Change 7 to the LWRP Submission
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Importance: High



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.....*New Zealand Rural Contractor Of The Year 2002*.....

13th September 2019

Plan Change 7: Submission

1. BA Murray Ltd
2. We are a large scale agricultural contracting business, employing up to 20 employees. We have a turnover of over \$4.5 million per annum. Our services involve, silage and hay making, land cultivation, seeding and technical support to all aspects of the farming community in the Canterbury District.
3. We have serviced the farming community for over 65 years. In the past 65 years, technology and advance agricultural machinery designs have enabled us to improve the way we have worked the land. In the past, some 30 years ago, up to five different operations have been conducted to plant a crop. Today those 5 operations are now 3, this shows the advancement in agricultural machinery and technology, with the help of GPS we now have proof of where we travel on the farms that we work on. It has also enabled us to be more accurate with our environmental footprint. This has enabled us with advance technology and new equipment to be financially viable with our services to farmers. As we know, farmers are price takers, not price setters, therefore it is more substantiable financially for the farmer to use companies like ourselves.
4. Our connection with the community is close. We support organizations like young students and agricultural clubs at schools, we also support sports in our local community i.e.: such as rugby and sponsor the A&P associations in our area. I'm a member of the Southbrook Sports Club, of which I am a board member. I am a past president of the Rural Contractors NZ, recently having been made a life member of this organization and I am a strong advocate and advisor for Rural Contractors in the greater Canterbury region.
5. The reason for my submission is that I am concerned that the long term reductions of nitrogen purposed in table 8.9 would put many of my clients at great hardship and could potentially put them out of business, which would have a huge impact on our own company and also the wider community. I accept that water quality improvements have to happen, however I am concerned that the science studying this, has been of a short term and not over a long period of time and that gives us concern that more monitoring needs to be done before these reduction targets need to be met. I have also heard there is potential for methods, such as Aquifer Recharge and Target Stream Augmentation to help meet water quality targets and these have not been considered in this plan.
6. The benefits to us to plan change 7, is that we do support the overall water quality objectives being purposed and yes we do want to see clean, healthy rivers in our district. I believe that farmers have improved the way that they farm for the future in doing there best with trying to reduce nitrate runoff.
7. What I am requesting - I understand and fully support, that Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd and the Next Generation Farmers Trust have put forward an alternative Plan Change 7 framework. I fully support both their submissions and the outcomes sought.

Regards

Steve Murray
Company Manager