

From: [Hayden](#)
To: [Mailroom Mailbox](#)
Subject: Submission pc7
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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

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Hayden Cartwright



13th September 2019

Submission

Background

Our family farm is alongside the Opihi River below Pleasant Point. We irrigate our whole property and are affiliated with Opuha water for approximately 70% of our irrigation needs.

We rely on the Opihi River and the Opuha dam augmentation for our farms economic survival and the 4 family's that the farm provides employment for. We also use the river for

recreation namely swimming, boating and a place to have Tea from time to time. We indirectly rely on the river to provide water for the community and downstream businesses.

In my 41 years living beside the Opihi and the three generations of our family who have farmed before us I have experienced the river being completely dry numerous times pre Opuha dam.

My submission relates to how PC7 will affect our farming operation as far as I am aware but I think will not be an exhaustive list as there is plenty of detail that I would need further clarification on.

14.1A – Definition of Permits – Oppose

PC7 refers to water users holding shares instead of the previous wording allowing entitlement or agreement from the dam company.

14.4.15 – Stock exclusion from artificial watercourses – Oppose in part

I agree with stock being excluded from waterways. However artificial watercourses need further clarification. We have the “German Creek” which runs through the length of our property and many of our paddocks dissect and run through this drain. The German creek drains sloping land behind pleasant point and discharges into the Opihi River. It runs for perhaps 2 -3 times per year after we have had rainfall events of 60 – 100mls. When this occurs the Opihi River is in flood (300cumecs plus).

Having us fence this off in our view is impractical for the miniscule gains received

Levels Plain High nitrogen concentration zone – Oppose

The reductions of N to water below Baseline GMP will have significant negative financial impacts for our business. I am not convinced on the measuring data to conclude the area is a high N zone, as far as I am aware there is no consideration the effect the Pleasant Point Oxidation ponds which sit directly NW of the Levels plain area have on the results.

14.5.29 – Oppose in part

OEFRAG has been excellent at managing the Opihi river in times of low flows and I want them to remain at the decision making table