

Comments

LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	784
Response Date	11/04/21 7:30 AM
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.1
First name	Murray
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Email address	
Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?	No, I'm submitting as an individual
Are you willing to tell us more about yourself?	Yes
Which age category are you in?	40-64 years old
Which suburb or area do you live in?	
Do you think we've prioritised the right issues and opportunities?	No

What do you feel are the significant challenges and opportunities we face?

Ecan should be prioritising the work it already has done on water management which is starting to show benefits. We all recognised it would take a generation to improve water quality and it seems a huge waste of money and resource to throw this work out and adopt the Governments freshwater policy with out pushing back on these new rules in the first instance.
Ecan should be prioritising flood protection, land and water management and biosecurity protection.

Which of the proposed options would you like to see us progress with?

Other option (please specify)

The proposed rate rise should be limited to 10% and the proposed plan be adopted to be within this targetted maximum rate rise. Ecan should return to core activities.

It is important that we hear what you would like to keep in the plan, what you think should be removed, and anything that you think we have missed?

Priority should be given to having Central Government recognise the work Ecan and its community have put into water and allow us to continue on our existing path as it seems to be working. Items such as leading community resilience, youth engagement, climate change resilience should be left to Central Government which would result in lower rates. Ecan needs to return to its core activities such as land and water, flood protection, biosecurity

Do you generally support the activities proposed in the following portfolios:

Water and Land	Yes
Biodiversity and Biosecurity	Yes
Climate Change and Community Resilience	No
Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development	No
Regional and Strategic Leadership	No

Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on):

- . Water and Land
- . Biodiversity and Biosecurity
- . Climate Change and Community Resilience
- . Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development
- . Regional and Strategic Leadership

Water and Land portfolio comments:

Dont support walking away from existing water plans. Need to fight Central Government and protect good work already done. Not taking this action seems to be an admission from Ecan that all their work to date has been incorrect and they have been actively wasting rate payer money and deliberately causing angst to their ratepayers

Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio comments:

Support biosecurity plans.

Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio comments:

Support Flood and river resilience. Oppose community and climate change resilience

Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development portfolio comments:

I note that Ecan is allowing for towns in the Selwyn district to expand with no regard for the effect of the resultant pollution on the environment. There appears to be a standard for urban pollution and a much higher standard for rural pollution. I applaud that urban transport is mostly funded by rates targeted at those who are able to use it and would be most disappointed to see a rural rate payer fund this.

Regional and Strategic Leadership portfolio comments:

A lot of money is being targeted at education of youth. Surely this is a function of Central Government as is assisting runanga on the fresh water plan.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable for your household? Neither option is affordable

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

The Chair of Ecan has suggested that the proposed rate increase of 24% is affordable to urban rate payers as most of the burden falls on the rural rate payer.
An increase of \$3,000 per year in Ecan rates is unacceptable to my business especially when combine with existing compliance costs to Ecan, increased monitoring costs coming on stream and the costs of continually educating myself on new technologies to improve my environmental foot print.
I note there is no proposed budget to help educate farmers on best management techniques when other sectors of the community are receiving funding such as youth and runanga.
It would appear that Ecan has an agenda against rural ratepayers and farmers in particular.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community?

No

Any further comments on affordability for the community?

The plan does not evidence effective governance by Ecan especially when it appears you are prepared to walk away from the substantial investment in water plans with no second thought.

Do you support the changes we're proposing to how we apply Uniform Annual General Charges?

No

Any further comments on Uniform Annual General Charges?

Would support increased use of the UAGC as this would better reflect the benefits of some of the proposals on people rather than property

Would you support the use of borrowing for operating expenditure to offset some of the first year rates?

No

Any further comments on the use of borrowing for operating expenditure?

If we can't afford it now we should be revisiting the long term plan and revising down as necessary.
Borrowing always attracts interest so is a further cost.

Do you support the rationale and proposed changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy?

Don't know

Any further comments on the Fees and Charges Policy?

Appears to target the rural ratepayer more than the urban.

Where do you live in Canterbury? Select your district below:

Ashburton district

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Kaikoura

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Hurunui

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimakariri

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Christchurch

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Selwyn

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Ashburton . Other initiative/s

The Hekeao Hinds Managed Aquifer Recharge is a pilot of environmental infrastructure to address water quality. To continue enhancing this infrastructure, the project would require ongoing targeted rates from the Ashburton district. Find out more [link]. Do you want to see this project continue? Yes

Any further comments on Hekeao Hinds Managed Aquifer Recharge? Yes

This should be left up to the people in the Hinds Plains to decide. Is starting to show good outcomes is going to be very costly to the local ratepayer. I suggest a targetted rate based on the Overseer number (nitrogen loss) of each farm as we all have this information as does Ecan. This system would reward those who are farming sustainably and encourage others to improve their farm systems.

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Mackenzie

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Timaru

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimate

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waitaki

Any further comments?

The proposed rate rise is not affordable and ill conceived. Their appears to be no thought of the cost of rates on ratepayers and with the apparent walking away from money already spent on water policy without a fight no consideration of rural ratepayers by the Ecan Council. We seem to be seen as the "cash cow" so to speak

Do you wish to speak to your submission? No

Would you like to be kept up-to-date with the outcome of this consultation? Yes

How did you find out about giving feedback? . Word of mouth
Newspaper
Meeting, hui or event

Your information is held and administered by Environment Canterbury in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020 and Environment Canterbury's Privacy Policy.

There is personal information/contact details in my submission I do not want disclosed: No