

JOINT HEARING OF RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS – TAGGART EARTHMOVING LIMITED

APPLICANTS EVIDENCE – MHG HELSEN

My name is Marleen Helsen and I live near the corner of Ballarat and River Roads. I have made a written submission regarding traffic and road network effects. My house is part of a cluster of six townhouses which were built four years ago in close proximity to River Road. These houses are located approximately 7 to 10 metres from the edge of the tarseal of River Road

Needless to say, the current passing of many trucks is very noisy and intimidating, but even worse is the vibration which is exacerbated by a big dip in the road just west of the corner of Ballarat and River Roads. Each time a truck travels through this dip, the vibration is like living through the Christchurch earthquakes all over again! Although the speed limit is 50 kph, my observation is that the vast majority of vehicles travel at 70-80 kph.

As an avid cyclist, it is always with great fear in my heart that I use River Road as it is too narrow to accommodate a cyclist as well as a truck. Then there is the safety issue re pedestrians, cyclists and cars turning into the carpark west of West Belt to access the river stop-banks. Things are bad enough as it is, however adding a further 250 heavy vehicle movements per day to the present road situation will be dangerous and intolerable. Therefore, I urge you to decline this resource consent application.

If however you are of a mind to grant consent, I request that you impose the following conditions of consent:

- 1) That speed cameras are installed along River Road to ensure that heavy vehicles travel at the 50 kph speed limit.
- 2) That River Road is widened to ensure that there is sufficient space for heavy vehicles and cyclists to use the road safely.
- 3) That the road is resealed to ensure that the surface is smooth i.e., that there is no more dip in the road. This would help to mitigate any vibrations as heavy vehicles travel through this section of road.
- 4) That stop signs be installed at the intersection of Quarry Road and the turn off to the stop bank.

Thank you for your consideration.