

Submission on resource consent application

Online reference number: CA200404804
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Submitter's details

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Street address of property affected (if different to the address above) NA

The Council will serve all formal documents electronically via the email address provided above.

Application to which submission relates

Name of applicant Opunake Power Ltd
Proposal (activity type and location) The applications are to renew seven resource consents and for one new consent, relating to the operation of the Opunake Hydroelectric Power Scheme located adjacent to the Opunake township.
Address;
South Road (State Highway 45), Opunake.
TRC Consent number/s 1795-5.0, 1796-4.0, 1797-4.0, 5581-2.0, 4744-3.0, 4563-3.0, 5692-2.0, 10826-1.0
I am a trade competitor for the purposes of [section 308B](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991 No

The specific parts of the application this submission relates to are:

My submission relates to the whole application Yes

Submission details

Please provide details of your submission. If your submission is in a document, you can upload the document below.

I support this application for Resource Consent.

The Opunake Hydro Electric Power Scheme(HEPS) is an excellent resource for electricity generation.

This HEPS has significant history, being a part of this community for approx 95 years it now forms a part of the existing environment.

The HEPS is also a matter of National Significance under the National Policy Statement Renewable Electricity Generation(NPS REG), it aligns with the objectives of the NPS

REG as it produces electricity from a renewable source and will play a part in Climate Change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions caused by the production of energy.

The NPS REG objectives also recognizes the need to provide for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities, such that the proportion of New Zealand's electricity generated from renewable energy sources increases to a level that meets or exceeds the New Zealand Government's national target for renewable electricity generation.

The HEPS has a good record of compliance, has made significant improvements in the operation of the scheme including the development, improvements and maintenance of the fish passage to the upper reaches of the Waiaua River and Lake, this providing significant increase in habitat and food source. These achievements provide mitigation for the reduced water flow below the weir (180 Liters/ second) and consideration should be given to reducing this flow further over time. This reducing of the flow below the weir would meet an objective of the NPS REG by upgrading the HEPS generated output, where an increased in flow below the weir would be a down grade to the HEPS by reduced generated output!!

NA

Upload submission details here

Outcome sought

**I seek the following decision from the Council
If consent is granted, the conditions I seek are**

To grant consent

That the residual channel flow down stream of the weir can be stage reduced from between 180 Liters/ second to 100 Liters/ second,

This base flow rate of 100 Liters/ second would be in alignment with recommendations for passage and habitat of native fish and passage for trout!

Comms,

AEE Appendix 3- Opunake Power Limited

Flow requirements for fish passage and in stream habitat down stream of Waiaua Hydroelectric power scheme weir.

I G Jowett

National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research

28 March 1995

Summary.

[this is to reflect achieving positive results of fish migrating to the upper reaches of the Waiaua River(increasing fish habitat) through fish passage improvements].

NA

You can upload a document containing the conditions you seek here

Attendance and wish to be heard at consent hearing

I/we wish to be heard in support of my/our submission Yes

By answering yes, you will have the option to speak in support of your submission at any consent hearing.

If others make a similar submission, I/we will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing. Yes

Request for independent commissioner/s

Pursuant to section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991, I request that the Taranaki Regional Council delegates its functions, powers, and duties required to hear and decide the application to one or more hearing commissioners who are not Taranaki Regional Councilors. NA

Note: Such a request may be made (in writing) up to 5 working days after close of submissions. If you do make a request under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991, you will be liable to meet or contribute to the costs of the hearings commissioner or commissioners.

Provision of submission to applicant

The Resource Management Act 1991 requires you to send a a copy of the submission to the applicant.

Would you like the Applicant to be automatically sent a copy of this submission via email? Yes

Please enter the applicant's email address here steve.osullivan@xtra.co.nz

Authorisation

By selecting this checkbox, you are confirming you are the person making submission, or person authorised on behalf of person making submission. Yes

Date 15/04/2020

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Action	Signature	Date
Database updated by		
Document number		