

Submission on resource consent application

Online reference number: CA200404510
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Submitter's details

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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) To discharge water containing sediment from the Waiaua River to Lake Opunake
TRC Consent number/s 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 No, my submission only relates to parts of the application
Please detail the parts of the application your submission relates to 10826-1.0 To discharge water containing sediment from the Waiaua River to Lake Opunake (new consent)

Submission details

Please provide details of your submission. If your submission is in a document, you can upload the document below. As residents who live right on the shore of lake Opunake we are aware of the changes that have occurred in the lake, even in the past 12 months.

The lake is a focal point for many of the residents of Opunake and is a draw card for many visitors. It has quite a history, and the information boards around its perimeter show pictures of recreational use over many decades. It has been used for swimming, boating, water skiing, jet skiing, kayaking, wind surfing and fishing and provides a safer environment for many of these activities than the nearby ocean beaches.

The Opunake Loop track, South Taranaki's longest formal path circumnavigates the lake and the lake itself is a highlight of this

walk. Camping is popular on the western shore and the lake is an attraction for local and international tourists.

However, sedimentation in the lake has considerably reduced its depth, reducing the suitability for water based activities. As such, the use of the lake for these activities has declined over recent years.

The shallower waters have also encouraged the growth of vegetation in the shallower water on the lake's perimeter, and weed throughout, clogging the water and further restricting its suitability for recreational use.

The bird life that is present in numbers (black swans, Canada geese, and ducks) tend to favour the deeper water at the western end of the lake, rather than the shallower eastern end.

Allowing water heavily laden with silt and sediment during flood and high water flows from the Waiaua River into Opunake Lake would hasten the sedimentation and vegetation of the lake, rendering it unsuitable for any recreational activities, and quite possibly the attraction for some of the birdlife already present.

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 refuse consent

To conduct regular activity to remove sediment (and associated vegetation) build up in the lake to maintain a reasonable depth and area to be used as a recreational resource for boating and other public water activities.

You can upload a document containing the conditions you seek here

NA

Attendance and wish to be heard at consent hearing

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

No

By answering no, you will not be advised of the date of any consent hearing and cannot speak at any hearing. However, you will still retain your right to appeal any decision made by the Council.

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 Councillors.

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

