

**WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 -
WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS**

Submission Form

Submission on a publically notified proposed Regional Plan prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991.

On: The Waikato Regional Councils proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipa River Catchments

To: Waikato Regional Council
401 Grey Street
Hamilton East
Private bag 3038
Waikato Mail Center
HAMILTON 3240

Complete the following

Full Name(s): Barbara Mary STOKES

Phone (hm): 07 8298940

Phone (wk): 027 2909040

Postal Address: RD12, Hamilton

Phone (cell): 272909040

Postcode: 3293

Email: barb_ssf@xtra.co.nz

I am not a trade competitor for the purposes of the submission but the proposed plan has a direct impact on my ability to farm. If changes sought in the plan are adopted they may impact on others but I am not in direct trade competition with them.

I wish to be heard in support of this submission.

If others make similar submissions, I would consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen Porter", written over a horizontal line.

Signature

5 March 2017

date

Signature

date

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Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Waikato Regional Councils proposed Plan Change 1.

My name is Barbara Stokes and I am a grazier taking in either beef or dairy heifers, along with some beef I fattened for meat market.

I have been doing this for the past 25 years. In recent years due to my age I have reduced the numbers of stock I have farmed and I believe these rules in general reduce the value of my farm for resale purposes. Why should the purchaser be restricted by land use, the amount of fertilizer particularly 'N' I have applied etc?

I ask myself will this approach by the Waikato Regional Council actually improve waterways whilst it targets those that have not being big polluters and rewards those that have been. Whilst Hamilton City may have resource consent, they are probably the biggest polluter and nothing is being done about that.

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The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to and the decisions it seeks from Council are as detailed in the following table. The outcomes sought and the wording used is as a suggestion only, where a suggestion is proposed it is with the intention of 'or words to that effect'. The outcomes sought may require consequential changes to the plan, including Objectives, Policies, or other rules, or restructuring of the Plan, or parts thereof, to give effect to the relief sought.

The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
	SUPPORT / OPPOSE	REASON	RELIEF SOUGHT
<p><i>Restricting land use change.</i></p> <p><i>Policy 6</i></p> <p><i>Rule 3.11.5.47 and any releant points within the plan</i></p>	<p>I oppose this</p>	<p>It affects the value of our land and impedes any future ability to develop and grow the business.</p> <p>It effects my equity and the ability to retire with a reasonable amount of funds for the balance of my life.</p>	<p>Delete in its entirety. It would be more appropriate to guage land capability based on actual information e.g. neighbouring properties ability doing the same type of farming, soil types etc rather than blanket banning of types of farming.</p>
<p><i>Plan Change 1 relating to the withdrawal of the lower part of the Waikato Catchment from PC1 (Hauraki Iwi)</i></p>	<p>I oppose this</p>	<p>My submission is that wht Waikato Regional Council should treats all its consituents as one entity. Withdrawal of part creates more uncertainty for those involved than it removes.</p> <p>The governments latest release relating to water ways (February 2017) makes not reference to specific areas, why then should Waikato Regional Council, not include all its catchment .</p>	<p>The whole plan hould be withdrawn until the Waikato Regional Council can treat all of its catchment as one.</p>

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
<p><i>Nitrogen Referenc Point</i></p> <p><i>Rule 3.11.5.3 -2.11.5.7</i></p> <p><i>Schedule B</i></p>	<p>I oppose this</p>	<p>The grandparenting approach of bench marking nitrogen losses to historic levels (2014/15 or 2015/16) will create perverse outcomes. Thiis will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. result will be a failure to improve freshwater b. produce significant inequalities between neighbours leading to animosity c. inability to improve farm outputs through normal development because of the stage of the cycle the farm was at when the plan was introduced d. Accuracy of OVERSEER is apparently very poor particularly in the case of grazing properties. It was never designed to be used in these circumstances. e. Comparing grazing properties for example over different areas (soil types, hill country compared to peat land, stock intensity) is not feasible. 	<p>That the Waikato Regional Council remove all current references to grandparenting and extensive operations needed for recording as the amount of nitrogen loss for grazing farms is low.</p> <p>The Waikato Regonial Council should introduce a standard for all types of farms instead of trying to limit by type. The rate of nitrogen loss will vary depending on soil type and therefore change from area to area. Also area to area will be affected by the intensity in each area.</p>

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Yours sincerely

BARBARA MARY STOKES

 5 March 2017

Signature

Date