

3-3-2017

Cover Letter with submission

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this as a concerned neighbour of farmers in the river catchment areas, and as a farmer who will eventually be affected by the proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1.

My husband and I are farming a 140 hectare hill country property, running sheep, beef cattle, and dairy graziers.

We have 8 hectares approx. of native bush that we plan to maintain as such, as we are clearing and improving pasture, we are implementing a trough water system which reduces livestock dependency on natural water, as responsible farmers we are providing shade trees and shelter belts for our livestock, we use a limited amount of fertilizer and supplement it with a natural seaweed product.

We take a practical and sustainable approach to our farming operation and I believe we need a plan that rewards individual efforts and condemns detrimental practices, a plan that does not allow dairy to buy credits or Moari to claim exemptions, a plan that does not fixate on nitrogen leaching and ignore sub~~urban~~ contamination.

We need a moderate, broad, and fair plan, the currently proposed plan does not tick these boxes.

Yours Sincerely  
R M Johnston



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

<p>The specific provisions my submission relates to are:</p> <p>State specifically what Objective, Policy, Rule, map, glossary, or issue you are referring to.</p>	<p>My submission is that:</p> <p>State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether you support, or oppose each provision listed in column 1;</li> <li>• brief reasons for your views.</li> </ul>	<p>The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:</p> <p>Give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• precise details of the outcomes you would like to see for each provision. The more specific you can be the easier it will be for the Council to understand the outcome you seek</li> </ul>
<p>Provision 3.11.3 Stock exclusion rule</p>	<p>I <del>support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend</del></p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>Implementing the proposed plan will over burden our debt load and reduce our stock capacity. it is creating undue stress and uncertainty and will have a negative financial flow on into the wider communities</p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: <del>Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/</del> amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>I would like the Waikato Regional Council to implement the National Water Accord which recommends streams 1.5 mts and wider be fenced off and protected.</p>

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

Provision	I support/ <del>oppose</del> / and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below
<p>Objective 1 and Policy 5</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>We support the objective but with amendments.</p> <p>We believe there is a need for a water resource management plan but it must be a sustainable plan, a plan that takes into account all parties contributing to the water quality of our lakes and rivers</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>That we do not fixate on nitrogen leaching and ignore urban <del>and</del> industrial contamination</p> <p>We need to clearly identify pollution areas, and deal with them accordingly.</p>

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Provision	I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below
<p>Policy 6 Restricting Land use Change Rule 3: 11. 5: 7</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:  The strict and inflexible nature of this rule is detrimental to the need for freedom to diversify in farming.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose  We believe the National Water Accord is a better option.  And we do not see this rule having a positive result.</p>

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Provision	I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below
<p>3:11:4:5</p> <p>Sub Catchment</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>There is a need to identify catchment and sub catchment areas that have water quality issues but the plan must be amended.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>Interpendant water testing to identify problem area's                      Not allowing dairy to buy credits or Maori to claim exemptions.                      We need a moderate broad and fair plan.</p>

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Provision	I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below
<p>Policy 1 and Policy 2 Regarding Nitrogen Reference Point</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>We use a limited amount of fertilizer and lime, we apply a natural seaweed and mineral liquid spray for improved plant and animal health.</p> <p>We take a practical and sustainable approach to our farming operation.</p> <p>I believe we need a plan that reward individual efforts and condemns detrimental practices on a case by case basis.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>I believe we need a plan that rewards individual efforts and condemns detrimental practices on a case by case basis.</p>

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

Provision	I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend  The reasons for this are:	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below  As an alternative I propose

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Yours sincerely *Ralea Johnston*

*R M Johnston*      *3/3/2017*  
Signature                      Date