



12 March 2021

Independent Commissioners: Proposed Plan Change 18 to the Mackenzie District Plan
c/- Mackenzie District Council

via email: c/- Melissa.McMullan@mackenzie.govt.nz

Dear Commissioners,

Proposed Plan Change 18 to the Mackenzie District Plan – Revised Evidence

At the hearing of submissions on Proposed Plan Change 18 to the Mackenzie District Plan (on 10 March 2021) I confirmed that I had reflected on, and changed, the opinion expressed in my evidence in respect of the need for a new Objective relating to the Waitaki Power Scheme. The purpose of this letter is to request that paragraph 29 of my evidence be replaced with the following:

“29. I do not agree with the Section 42A Report conclusion that a new objective is not necessary because there are other objectives in the District Plan (and particularly Rural Objectives 3B and 11) that are achieved by the Proposed Plan Change 18 provisions. This is because Objective 3B only relates to activities in the Mackenzie Basin’s outstanding natural landscape, as opposed to indigenous biodiversity or indigenous vegetation clearance.

29A. I have read the joint witness statement of Ms Ruston and Dr Mitchell that, rather than promoting a new objective as suggested in the primary submissions, supports the addition of a new clause (c) in Objective 2 (renumbered Objective 1). I generally agree that a new clause in this Objective is a succinct solution to including an objective in the District Plan that is achieved by the subsequent provisions of Proposed Plan Change 18. However, I do not support the drafting proposed in the joint witness statement because the proposed clause (c) is expressed in a manner more akin to a policy and fails to clearly articulate the outcome to be achieved.

29B. I consider that the new clause could be rewritten in a manner that gives effect to the relevant higher order documents, including the NPSET and CRPS, and provides a clearer expression of the outcome to be achieved by the implementing provisions of the Proposed Plan Change as follows:

“(c) provide for vegetation clearance associated with the development, operation, maintenance, refurbishment and upgrade of the Waitaki Power Scheme while, to the extent practicable, indigenous biodiversity is maintained.” ...

Thank you for the opportunity to formally revise my evidence.

Yours sincerely

Ainsley McLeod
Director/Planner