

There is no compensation for us being here at this hearing to argue a case we haven't willingly entered into.

There is no compensation for limiting or reducing our property value due to restrictive regulation.

There is no compensation for limiting certain activities and imposing expensive compliance and consent costs, restricting our ability to derive a reasonable income from our property.

The submitter has not been on our land and makes assumptions without evidence or qualification that this land is an outstanding natural landscape.

He sights a larger area south of SH8 as not distinct and is highly modified, our area is no different.

Berkeley Downs has been grazed with livestock since the 1800s, it has had fertiliser and seed applied for years and has been chemically sprayed for weeds such as gorse and thistles as has the south side of SH8.

Our property has been farmed in the same manner for decades with no change to the landscape, it looks the same as it always did.

We believe we have been good custodians of the land, there is no need for more costly bureaucracy and restrictive legislation.

There are many areas of limestone all over the South Island and New Zealand. Limestone is a large common feature not a small outstanding feature.

We have been pulled into this process at the 11th hour so to speak as we were originally below the lines marked on the ONL map.

There has been no consultation process with us from MCDC as there was for other affected landowners inside the original line.

This has been a frustrating process to say the least and to be honest very stressful and time consuming.

For us to be here today is at our own cost when we should be at home working on farm.

It seems hard to believe that after the council has spent thousands of dollars on a report from Boffa Miskell that one person with no scientific evidence, that doesn't live in or pay rates in our district can then draw some lines on a map and add extra cost and time spent on this process, which all adds to the burden on rate payers.

Sue and I feel this bureaucracy is an invasion of property rights.

Berkeley Downs is a freehold property. We pay the mortgage, the rates, the insurance.

It is our responsibility to manage the weeds and pests.

Then other people seem to have a say and make decisions on our land without having to pay the bills.

Good morning chairperson and the hearing panel.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on our submission regarding PC 23

My name is Steve Kerr, my wife Sue and I live and farm at Berkeley Downs on Stoneleigh Road above Kimbell.

This is a further submission opposing the submission from Herman Frank to place our farm in the proposed ONL area.

We are sheep and cattle farmers and have lived here for 17 years and raised our 3 children here.

We moved to this property in 2007 from a smaller farm in the area, it meant taking on a lot more debt, there has been a lot of hard work and fiscal management to make this business work.

Without a strong environmental focus we would not be on the farm today.

Our land is our biggest asset, it's care and protection are paramount.

I was born and raised in the Mackenzie district, my wife has lived here for over twenty years.

Our children have grown up with this farm as home and their playground.

From riding their horses to swimming in the creek to climbing the hills, they have enjoyed and appreciated the uniqueness of this landscape.

In conclusion

- 1 We are concerned about the lack of consultation which seems to suggest that the council isn't interested in farmers views.
- 2 We are concerned about the cost of this process to ratepayers after the government clearly indicating a review on the RMA.
- 3 We are concerned at the lack of respect for freehold property rights.
- 4 We are concerned about the land classification and our borrowing ability from banks
- 5 We seek that the Herman Frank submission be rejected in full.
- 6 We support the Federated Farmers submission.

Thank you for your time.