

SUBMISSION ON RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS AND NOTICE OF
 REQUIREMENT FOR DESIGNATION FOR PROJECT AQUA, LODGED BY
 MERIDIAN ENERGY LTD

Submission to: Environment Canterbury, Otago Regional Council, Waitaki District Council and Ministry for the Environment [Send to: Project Aqua and Waitaki Called in Application Submissions, Free Post # 1201, PO Box 1, Christchurch (One copy to this address does all four Authorities)]

I/we the undersigned, **OPPOSE ALL** of the applications lodged by Meridian Energy Ltd with respect to the proposed Project Aqua Hydro development including, among others:

- Waitaki River flows, including all applications to dam, divert, take, use and return water to the Waitaki River.
- Notice or Requirement to Designate land
- The intake at Kurow
- River diversions
- Borrow areas
- Air, land and water discharges
- Canals
- Main river crossings
- Haul roads
- Wetlands
- Fill areas
- Outfalls
- Concrete batch plants
- Water requirements

My/our reasons for opposing all applications include, but are not limited by, adverse impacts I/we consider cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated for including:

- permanent loss of New Zealand's **largest broad braided river**.
- loss of **river braids and hapua** at Waitaki River mouth
- reduction in **ecological and biological diversity**.
- loss of **natural landscape, spiritual, cultural, heritage, amenity and recreational value** of the lower Waitaki River and Valley which are outstanding natural features.
- loss of a **public resource** by diverting up to 75% of the flow in the lower Waitaki River into an artificial vessel (canal) owned by Meridian Energy Ltd.
- **degradation of water quality** in the Lower Waitaki River due to lower dilution.
- **change of climate** through increased fog, and intensity and duration of frosts affecting particularly, economic production and potential (eg viticulture) and public safety
- **lack of knowledge** as to the range and extent of ecological response resulting from changes in river flow rates (hydrology) and consequent changes in river structure (geomorphology).
- inappropriateness of **industrial/hydro development**, fill areas, haul roads and borrow pits on first class soils currently zoned rural-agricultural.
- Unacceptable risk taking on the environment including Meridian's concept of "**adaptive management**" to address adverse environmental impacts.
- further hydro is unsustainable and **alternative, less destructive methods** have not been properly considered
- **extreme adverse social and environmental effects**, including dust, noise, vibration, lighting etc

I/we request the Consent Authority to **decline all applications** lodged by Meridian Energy Ltd relating to Project Aqua. I/we **(do)/(do not)** (cross out one) wish to speak to our submission.

Submitter(s):.....

Postal Address:.....

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Phone..... Signature(s)..... Date:.....

I/we have also sent a copy of my/our submission to Meridian Energy Ltd (at: Meridian Energy Ltd, c/o Anderson Lloyd Cauldwell, Private Bag 1959, Dunedin 9020).