

Notice from the Coalgate Township Committee

The Coalgate Township Committee is seeking to become better informed on the views of this community on the issue of Central Plains Waters' proposal to build a dam in the Wainiwaniwa Valley just north of the Coalgate Tavern. In a few weeks time senior Geography students from Darfield High School will survey the Coalgate Township on behalf of the committee so that your township committee can better represent the views of the local community.

This leaflet has been prepared so that the residents of Coalgate can be better informed on the issues of this project well before this survey is carried out.

Some facts and figures on the CPW proposal are listed on the reverse of this page, below are some of the views of both supporters and opponents of the scheme.

Some supporters of the Central Plains Water Scheme claim that:

- water storage will enable 60,000 ha of land to be irrigated on about 300 farms
- the irrigation will increase employment in the district
- both the local and the Canterbury economies will grow, lifting retail business
- the scheme will relieve the growing demand on aquifers surrounding Christchurch
- irrigated land will increase in value
- the reservoir may have recreational value (but this would be limited over the summer months)

Some opponents to the scheme claim that:

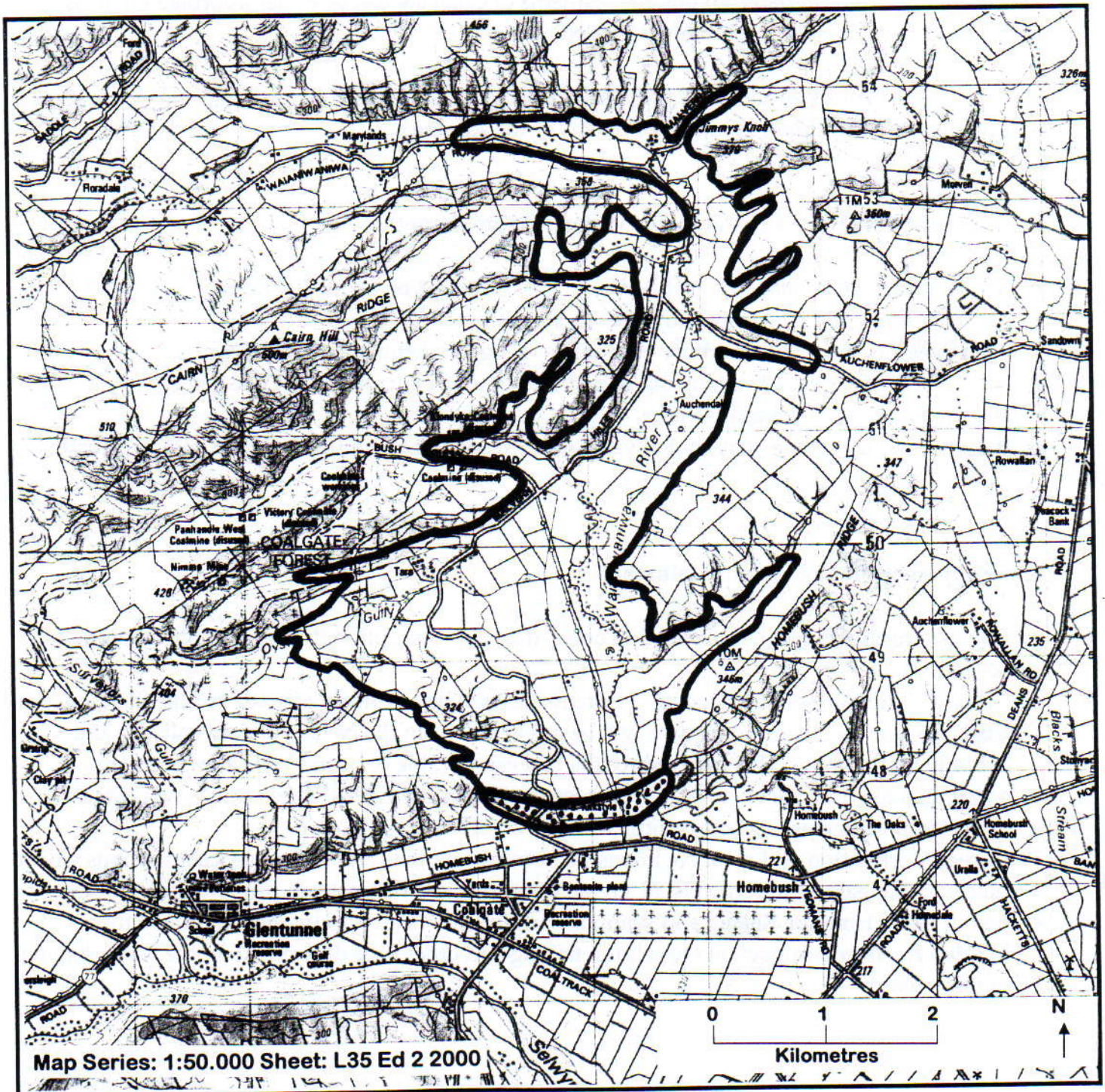
- Coalgate residents will be subjected to noise, dust and disruption during the construction of the scheme
- ??? ha of farmland will be flooded. 14 properties will be adversely affected by this flooding
- Coalgate and the surrounding area will be put at risk from the hazard of dam collapse and subsequent flooding. This may reduce the real estate value of properties below the dam.
- a vast area of additional land will be lost for the 50 m wide canals. These canals will cut across many properties creating access difficulties
- increased irrigation will promote intensive farming methods and more dairy conversions which places an increased burden on local streams, aquifers and downstream properties
- taking water from the Rakaia and Waimakariri Rivers will adversely affect nature of these braided rivers and impact on the salmon fishing and other uses dependent on the water staying in these rivers

SURVEY
ACTUAL SENT JUNE/JULY 2005

Central Plains Water... Their Plan

Below is a map showing the footprint of the dam and reservoir as taken from the Geotechnical Report. The reservoir is drawn following the 280m contour line. Dam Height 50 metres above present ground level. The dam will be 2km long. Dam Capacity 200,000,000 cubic metres of water covering 60,000 ha of land Head race 50 metre wide allowance (25m wet surface) following 235 metre contour line. Other unconfirmed plans are to build a recreational lake near Coalgate and generate hydro power.

Location of Proposed CPW Dam and Reservoir



Coalgate Residents' Views on Proposed Dam

Please complete the following survey and return in the envelope provided by July 13th. Any information you give will be used only to determine the overall level of support for the proposal. No information on any individual response will be identified.

A summary of the survey will be used by the Year 13 Geography students at Darfield High School in one of their research projects and the results will be given to the Coalgate Township Committee so that they may represent the community as they see fit.

1 Approximately how long have you lived in Coalgate?

1-5 years		6-10 years		11-15 years		16-20 years		over 20 years	
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2 Do you live in Coalgate on a permanent basis ?....yes

oris your residence here a holiday home?yes

3 Do you support the choice of building the dam in the proposed location just north of Coalgate?

Strongly Against	Against	Support	Strongly Support
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%; height: 20px;"> </div>			

3(b) If you are against the proposal, would you be supportive if the dam were located approx. 500m further up the Wainiwaniwa Valley so that the flood hazard would be reduced.

Yes Definitely	Yes	No	Definitely Not
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%; height: 20px;"> </div>			

3© If you have suggestions on how the CPW proposal could be made more acceptable to the community please state your ideas: _____

4 Below are some possible benefits of the planned CPW scheme. Please indicate which of the following possible benefits are most important to you by placing a 6 beside the most important, a 5 for the next most important, and so onwith a 1 for the least important to you. Put in a 0 for any item of no importance to you.

Increased production from farming	
Increased employment in the district	
Improvement in local economy	
Improvement in Canterbury economy	
Increases in the value of rural farmland	
Increases the value of local real estate	
Create a reservoir with recreational value	

4 (b) Are there any other benefits of this scheme that you think are important ? (please state)

5 (a) Below are some possible negative impacts of the planned CPW scheme please indicate which of the following concerns are most important to you by placing a 6 beside the most important, a 5 for the next most important, and so onwith a 1 for the least important to you. Place a 0 for any that are of no concern to you.

Concern over hazard of dam failure / overspill	
Construction disruption and noise	
Ongoing noise if reservoir used for recreation	
Windblown dust when the reservoir is empty	
Negative affect on the Canterbury environment	
Negative impact on local real estate values	

5(b) If there are other negative impacts that are of concern to you please state them below.

6 Often when there are projects like this where one locality is affected by the disruption of a project that a much wider area benefits from the "host community" is compensated in some way.

(a) How do you feel the host community might reasonably be compensated?

(b) One suggested idea to compensate the local residents has been the creation of a "lake" below the dam next to the Coalgate Township. This would be suitable for boating and water sports. What is your opinion about such a "lake"?

Strongly Against Against Support Strongly Support

© If such a lake was built how important is it to you that it is a "no motors" lake?

Very Important Important Not important Not Important at all

7 Other comments you might like to make:

Thank you for the time and care you have taken to complete this survey.☺
Please return it in the envelope provided by July 13th.