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IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATIONS

BY Central Plains Water Trust

TO Canterbury Regional Council for Resource Consents

AND TO Selwyn District Council for Resource Consents

IN both cases for construction and operation of Central Plains Water Scheme.

1. This Submission is made in response to Minute 14 of the Commissioners dated 1st February 2010 and concerns the Homebush Farm Property.
2. The submissions relate to the applications made to the Regional Council and also relate to proposed conditions for Selwyn District Council land use consent application.
3. It is submitted that the decision by the Applicant to withdraw its applications which relate to a storage reservoir has had a major effect on the remaining applications. First it is submitted that no adequate conditions have been offered to remedy the potential for dust nuisance during the operation of the scheme arising in the situation where the banks and bed of the headrace are allowed to dry out and consequently the wind picks up dust from the dry areas and deposits it over the boundaries of the headrace on neighboring properties. It is submitted that a condition be imposed to maintain an appropriate quantity/flow of water in the canal so that it does not cause a dust nuisance on a permanent basis.
4. Appendix 2 of minute 14 regarding consent reference 061974 in the above appendix: It is submitted that removal of the earth dam as contained in the original application has made a major change in the effect which the scheme will have on the Waianiwa River which is now been allowed to continue with its flows and the applicants propose only to pipe the river flow under the headrace. This piping will be subject to limitations of size and it will be necessary to have a ponding area up stream of the headrace which is acceptable for Homebush Farm subject to mutually acceptable land use arrangement being made.
5. It is submitted that the effect of the pipes on that river should not be to lower the height of the water level below the existing concrete weir in the river as a minimum level.
6. It is submitted that conditions be imposed so that all tributaries of the Waianiwa River be allowed to pass under the headrace at the point where the headrace intersects the present tributary; with the qualification that where practical tributaries may be diverted so as to enter the North branch further up stream than the point of intersection, if the applicant so decides.
7. It is submitted that the best place for ecological enhancement of the Waianiwa River is near the North branch and approximately 300metres downstream on that branch from the existing concrete weir. There is a good site approximately 300metres downstream at the point where the North branch divides from the South branch at the existing concrete weir. At this point there will be the minimum loss of water by seepage because there is much less gravel in the bed than there is further downstream.
8. Stormwater Flows

It is submitted that a condition is required to ensure that stormwater flows are directed through the existing culverts under State Highway 77 (Homebush Road) by directing the water on a route which is most direct between the intersection of the existing tributaries and the headrace. The condition also needs wording to the effect that in building the headrace the applicant is not to aggregate stormwater flows so as to cause a greater loading on the existing water courses.

9. It is submitted that consistent with the above reference 061974 in Appendix 2 the applicant be required to provide for augmentation of the flows in the Waianiwa River by water out of the headrace at the point where the headrace crosses the North branch of that river. The water to be added is to be a specified amount and is to be provided between specified calendar dates during each year so as to take account of the times when the scheme flow is adequate to make reasonable provision for such enhancement.

10. Emergency Discharges

Consistent with earlier submissions and notwithstanding the omission of the storage reservoir there needs to be a condition that the only emergency discharge points from the headrace (apart from the rivers supplying the water into it) there should only be discharges into the Selwyn River at Coalgate and the Hororata River at Hororata, in both cases into the principal waterbodies.

11. Removal of Reservoir

The effect of the applicant's omission of the reservoir is that the situation concerning the Waianiwa River referred to in the evidence of the submitter at paragraphs 5 and 6 needs to be changed. This has been done by the submissions recorded above.

12. Farmers Group – Southern Headrace

Evidence in reply was given by Walter Lewthwaite and filed in September 2008 at paragraph 99 (page 31) the applicants should be required to proposed conditions to be set by both Councils according to their respective authority, whereby the items agreed as stated in that evidence are recorded as being part of these conditions.

13. Conditions proposed by Farmers Group – Southern Headrace

The following conditions have not been included by the applicant and it is further submitted that these remain valid and necessary conditions to be imposed by the Selwyn District Council as above (original reference form 21 paras 2-5 as per submissions made).


Condition 3C – Specification for Stock Fencing

Paragraph 3E – Specification for Fire Safety

Specification 3K – Consent for Livestock Drinking Water

Dated this 12th day of March 2010

Signed  _____
James Deans (Submitter)

Signed  _____
James Deans
(for and on behalf of Farmers Group – Southern Headrace)