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9 February 2010

The Committee of Commissioners

C/- Ciana Cerri
Consents Hearing Officer
Canterbury Regional Council
58 Kilmore Street
CHRISTCHURCH

**Resource Consent Application- To take and use water in the Upper Waitaki
Catchment and other associated Applications-15th Minute of the Commissioners**

Your Ref: CO6C/26005H

Dear Commissioners

Firstly we beg your forbearance in allowing the statement as follows to be tabled as a late submission in respect of the above Minute and Mr Whata's memorandum. This correspondence, due to our absence from our above mailing address, meant that the information was not available to us until 5 February, one day after the stipulated Closing.

The Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan [WCWARP] is a strategy developed to supposedly manage water resources without stresses, applied for in this case by applicants who have no regard for results outside the boundaries of their own properties. The potential relevant adverse effects should be taken into account to a degree that reflects the WCWARP target water volumes taken from the catchment. It is therefore imperative in our view that a holistic assessment be applied to reflect all water extraction demands simultaneously. This, together with the potential visual, bio-diversity and water quality adverse effects must be taken into account now and in the future. Such a strategy would in our opinion establish an on-going sustainability culture of review bringing only benefits to the Ohau Valley and The Mackenzie.

It is for this reason that we oppose the urgent determination requested by Southdown Holdings Ltd, Five Rivers Ltd and Williamson Holdings Ltd.

Yours faithfully

John F and Alison K Smithies

