



SUBMISSION PACK
For
Meridian Energy Limited's
Resource Consent Applications for the
Mokihinui Hydro Proposal

Introduction

This pack contains the necessary information for you to make a submission on any of the resource consent applications, lodged by Meridian Energy Limited for the Mokihinui Hydro Proposal, that were publicly notified on the 14th and 15th of March 2008.

The public notification of the resource consent applications opens the period during which submissions can be received from the public on any of the 34 resource consent applications lodged by Meridian Energy Limited with the West Coast Regional Council and Buller District Council for the construction, operation and maintenance of its proposed hydro electric power scheme within the Mokihinui River valley near Seddonville.

This submission pack contains the following:

- Details of the resource consent applications (pages 8 to 13);
- A copy of the Council's public notice (page 15);
- Coloured submission forms (one for each Council)
- An electronic version (CD copy) of the 'Application' and Assessment of Environmental Effects.

(Please note the CD copy does not contain the Social Impact Assessment, nor the appendices to Assessment of Landscape and Visual Effects, Appendix 14. These documents are available from the West Coast Regional Council, The Buller District Council and also on the Meridian Website www.meridianenergy.co.nz/OurProjects/Mokihinui+hydro+proposal)

If you wish to make a submission on the resource consent applications, your submission must be made in writing, signed and received at the West Coast Regional Council's office/address (388 Main South Road, PO Box 66, Greymouth) by **5pm Wednesday 23 April 2008**.

If, after reading through the Submission Pack, you have any questions about the process of making a submission on the resource consent applications, then you are welcome to contact Karen Glover at the West Coast Regional Council (0508-800-118) or the duty planner at the Buller District Council (03 788 9112).

Resource Consent Applications

Introduction

Resource consent applications for differing aspects of the Mokihinui Hydro Proposal have been lodged with the West Coast Regional Council and the Buller District Council by Meridian Energy Limited. A total of 34 resource consent applications are covered by the public notice on Friday the 14th and Saturday 15th March 2008; 26 of which are with West Coast Regional Council; and 8 of which are with the Buller District Council. Details of all resource consent applications are included in this submission pack.

What are the Responsibilities of each of the Councils?

Generally, the Regional Council has responsibility for matters such as soil conservation, water flows and water quality, discharges of contaminants, air quality, activities affecting riverbeds and natural hazards. Meridian Energy Limited has therefore applied to the West Coast Regional Council for resource consents relating to these areas of responsibility, such as damming, diversion and use of water, discharges of contaminants, construction works in the riverbed, and earthworks.

The Buller District Council has responsibility for such matters as visual impact, social impact, transport, utilities and terrestrial ecology. Meridian Energy Limited has therefore applied to the Buller District Council for resource consents relating to these areas of responsibility such as constructing the dam, access tracks, transmission lines, earthworks and vegetation clearance.

Resource Consent Applications

The figure provided with the public notice (see page 16 of the submission pack) shows the general area within which the resource consent applications covered by the public notification on Friday the 14th and Saturday 15th March 2008 have been made. It also indicates specific locations of some particular project elements for which resource consent applications have been made.

The proposed project will consist of an 85 m high concrete gravity dam, plus foundations and a single power station, containing three turbines fed by penstocks which source water from a screened intake and head gate in the body of the dam. The turbines inside the power station discharge into individual draft tubes to the common tailrace channel. Also associated with the dam is a 28 km long transmission line from a new substation at the dam site to a new substation near Cedar Creek, Denniston.

The proposed dam will also create an approximately 337 ha lake which would stretch approximately 14 km upstream of the dam and would be 500 m at it widest point.

The installed generation capacity at the proposed dam will be 65 to 85 Megawatts (MW) and will produce 310 to 360 Gigawatt hours (GWh) per annum of electricity. This is sufficient energy for approximately 35,000 to 45,000 average homes.

The notified resource consent applications, which are associated with the project proposal above, generally relate to the construction, operation and maintenance of the following activities relating to the Mokihinui hydro proposal. A full list of the wording of all consent applications can be found later in this Submission Pack.

- Disturbing the bed of the Mokihinui River and tributaries and undertaking earthworks and vegetation clearance on the adjacent land to enable the construction, operation and maintenance of the dam and associated facilities, including diversion channel, coffer dams, penstocks, spillway, plunge pool, tailrace, powerhouse, substation, transformers, construction staging area, temporary bridge, haul roads, permanent access roads, parking areas and log handling facilities;

- Constructing and maintaining a concrete gravity dam 300 m wide and 85 m above river level approximately 3 km upstream of Seddonville;
- Creating an approximately 337 ha lake behind the dam;
- Constructing and maintaining a 110 kV transmission line within an identified transmission corridor between the dam site and the existing Inangahua-Waimangaroa transmission line at Cedar Creek;
- Taking, using, damming and diverting water from the Mokihinui River and groundwater to enable to construction of the dam and associated facilities;
- Taking and using water from the Mokihinui River to supply potable water and water for the construction and ongoing operation of the dam and associated facilities;
- Taking and using water from the Mokihinui River for electricity generation purposes;
- Damming the Mokihinui River to create the new lake;
- Disturbing the bed of the Mokihinui River and tributaries and carrying out earthworks and vegetation clearance on adjacent land to establish, operate and maintain the new lake, including slope stabilisation structures;
- Disturbing the bed of the new lake and carrying out earthworks and vegetation clearance in order to construct, use and maintain new boat launching ramp and jetty facilities;
- Disturbing the beds of tributaries of the Mokihinui River and carrying out earthworks and vegetation clearance on adjacent land in order to construct and maintain a new access track on the true left bank of the Mokihinui River (to replace the existing pack track);
- Carrying out earthworks and vegetation clearance and disturbing the beds of tributaries of the Mokihinui River in order to upgrade the existing Mokihinui Seddonville Road from the intersection with State Highway 67 to the construction site;
- Carrying out earthworks and vegetation clearance and disturbing the beds of the tributaries of a number of rivers in order to construct, operate and maintain the proposed transmission line, new substation and access tracks;
- Discharging construction stormwater to water and land;
- Discharging plant process water, site drainage water and contaminants into the Mokihinui River via a treatment system;
- Discharging treated sewage into land from facilities located at the construction staging area and the new substation;
- Discharging contaminants into air during construction and maintenance activities (including dust and other emissions from plant);
- Erecting buildings which exceed bulk and height provisions within the staging area and the dam and to have a log boom on the surface of the lake;
- Various emissions related to the construction of the dam, earthworks and vegetation clearance, operation of the staging area and erection of transmission lines and substations, including noise, dust and lighting;
- The storage and use of hazardous substances at the dam site, the staging area and the substations.

Full copies of the resource consent applications and all information forming the complete Mokihinui Hydro Proposal application can be viewed at the following offices:

Buller District Council
6 Brougham St
PO Box 21
Westport

West Coast Regional Council
388 Main South Road
PO Box 66
Greymouth

Copies may also be viewed at the following locations:

Sue Thompson Memorial
Library
87 Palmerston St
Westport
(9.30am to 5pm
Monday-Friday
10.30-1pm Saturday)

Granity Community Library
Torea St
Granity
(Wed/Sun pms)

Seddonville Community
Library
Pine St
Seddonville
(Wed pms)

Copies can also be found on the following website:

www.meridianenergy.co.nz/OurProjects/Mokihinui+hydro+proposal

Submissions

If you wish to make a submission on any of the resource consent applications lodged with the West Coast Regional Council or Buller District Council, then you can do so by sending your written submission to the address below.

Submissions should be headed 'Mokihinui Hydro Proposal' and must be received at the following address no later than **5pm on Wednesday 23 April 2008**.

Address: West Coast Regional Council
PO Box 66
388 Main South Road
Greymouth

A copy of each submission **MUST ALSO** be sent to Meridian Energy Ltd at the following address:

Address: Meridian Energy Ltd
25 Sir William Pickering Drive
PO Box 2454
Christchurch
Attention: Chris Evans

What is Involved in being a Submitter?

Documents to submitters

One thing you need to keep in mind when making a submission is that the Councils are required, under the Resource Management Act, to provide you with a copy of the report by Council officers and the decision reached by the panel of commissioners after a public hearing. These documents are likely to be large. This means, for example, that if there are four of you in your household and the four of you make separate submissions, then each of you will receive a copy of the officers' report and the commissioners' decision.

To be heard or not to be heard?

Your experience of the submission will be different depending on whether or not you choose to be heard at the joint public hearing.

If you do not choose to be heard, and tick the associated box on your submission form, then after sending in your submission, your submission will be logged in a database for submissions on the Mokihinui Hydro Proposal. You will be advised of details of the joint public hearing, although you do not intend to speak. The commissioners will get to see your submission during the public hearing and are obliged to give it consideration before coming to their final decision. You will receive notice of the commissioners' decision once the public hearing is over.

If you choose to be heard, and tick the associated box on your submission form, then you will have more direct participation in the process. By ticking the box, you are indicating that you want to speak at the public hearing to talk publicly about your submission, and more particularly, to speak directly to the panel of commissioners. It is important that you are aware that what you write in your submission will outline the range of matters within which you are allowed to speak at the public hearing, so you need to make sure that you list points in your submission that you want to state publicly when the hearing time comes.

The Closing Date for Submissions is Wednesday 23 April 2008

Please note that any submissions received after this date will be treated as late submissions. It is possible to apply for a waiver to enable your late submission to be included in the public hearing, but there is no guarantee that a waiver will be granted, particularly given that the submission period for these resource consent applications is longer than the minimum period required by the Resource Management Act. It is recommended that you lodge your submission with the Council(s) before the closing date to ensure that it is included in the public hearing.

Guidelines for Completing Submission Forms

There are two different coloured submission forms included within this Submission Pack, one for each Council. Each of the Councils have received resource consent applications, so the submission forms have the resource consent numbers listed on the back of them. You are entitled to fill out both coloured submission forms if you wish to make a submission on any of the consent applications lodged with both Councils. However, if you only wish to make a submission on the consent applications lodged with the West Coast Regional Council, then you only fill out the **Green** form. Likewise, if you only wish to make a submission on the consent applications lodged with the Buller District Council, then you only fill out the **Yellow** form.

- Make sure your full name and contact details are printed clearly on each submission form that you fill out, so that the Councils can let you know important information during the process, such as details of the joint public hearing.
- You must indicate on each submission form that you fill out, using the tick boxes provided, whether you are in support or in opposition to the particular resource consent application(s) relevant to your submission.
- When outlining your reasons for the submission you should include specifics. It is important to be to the point, and use clear, simple language. You are welcome to attach material to the submission form, such as a longer description of your reasons. If you do so, please tick the box on the front of the form to indicate that you have included attached material. You will need to do this for each submission form that you fill out.
- You need to be specific about the decision, or recommendation, that you want the commissioners to make in regard to the particular resource consent application(s) relevant to your submission. Once again, you can attach material outlining any conditions you would like imposed on the resource consents if they are granted, or amendments that you would like to see made if it is recommended to be accepted, supported by your reasons.
- If you decide that you want to attend a public hearing and present your submission to the panel of commissioners, then you should tick the box indicating that you want to be heard. If you only want to submit in written form, then tick the box indicating that you do not want to be heard.
- Make sure all the people involved in making the submission sign the bottom of each submission form, and date the form.

The Hearing Process

If you tick the box on your submission form indicating that you wish to be heard, then you are indicating that your intention is to present your submission at a joint hearing on the Meridian Energy Limited resource consent applications.

There may be a considerable time lapse between the date of your submission and the date of a joint public hearing. You will be kept advised of developments over time, and will be informed of the date and location of the joint public hearing once it is scheduled to occur. You will also be given information about what to bring to the hearing and what you can expect from the hearing process.

The Councils will be relying upon the contact details that you supply with your submission(s) in order to keep you informed about the process leading up to a joint public hearing, so it is very important that your details are clear when you send in your submission(s). If you change your address during the process, then please ensure you advise the West Coast Regional Council of your new address.

MHP RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS

Introduction

This section includes details of all notified resource consent applications for the Mokihinui Hydro Proposal, lodged by Meridian Energy Limited with both the West Coast Regional Council and the Buller District Council.

West Coast Regional Council – Relevant Resource Consent Applied For:

Mokihinui River (Consents RC07150/1 – RC07150/6)

Land Use Consent. Consent Number RC07150/1	Dam & Associated Infrastructure.	To disturb the bed of the Mokihinui River and tributaries; to excavate, prepare and construct dam foundations, to erect, use, repair and maintain a roller compacted concrete dam, diversion channel, spillway and plunge pool, tailrace, penstock, haul roads and temporary bridges, coffer dams; and associated infrastructure, including log handling facilities. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years
Water Permit RC07150/2	Penstocks	To take and use water from the Mokihinui River via penstock pipelines for hydro electricity generation purposes. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years
Water Permit Consent Number RC07150/3	Water Supply	To take and use water from the Mokihinui River to supply potable water and water for construction and ongoing operation of the Dam and associated facilities. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years
Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/4	Tail Race, and Minimum Flow Bypass	To discharge water used for hydro electricity generation and contaminants to the Mokihinui River, via a tail race or via minimum flow bypass pipes. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years
Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/5	Spillway	To discharge water from the lake into the Mokihinui River via a spillway; and water and ground water from the dam contraction joint drains and under-drains into the Mokihinui River. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years

Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/6	Ongoing Site Drainage Post Construction	To discharge site drainage water and contaminants into the Mokihinui River via a treatment system following completion of construction activities. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2894-6097	Consent Term:35 years
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Inundation Area (Consents RC07150/7 – RC07150/8)

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/7	Inundation Area	To disturb the bed of the Mokihinui River and tributaries to establish, use, repair and maintain the lake, including creation of waterborne access. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096 and 3974-6201	Consent Term:35 years
Water Permit Consent Number RC07150/8	Inundation Area	To dam the Mokihinui River; to create a lake. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years

Staging Area (Consents RC07150/9 – RC07150/10)

Water Permit Consent Number RC07150/9	Coffer Dams, Diversion Channel, Dam Construction, Staging Area	To take, use, dam and divert water from the Mokihinui River and groundwater to construct and operate a roller compacted concrete dam (including under-drains), coffer dams, diversion channel and staging area and associated infrastructure. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years
Water Permit Consent Number RC07150/10	Staging Area Drainage, Roads, and Tracks	To take, use, and divert tributaries of the Mokihinui River to provide for construction site drainage, road and track construction, use and maintenance. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years

Substation and Transmission (Consents RC07150/11 – RC07150/13)

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/11	Transmission Poles, Lines and Substation Access Track and Substation Construction	To disturb the beds of ephemeral, named or unnamed tributaries of rivers listed in Schedule B (documented in Resource Consent Application and AEE, pages 38-39): to erect, use, repair and maintain culverts, fords and bridges to construct and maintain transmission poles, lines and substation access tracks; and to construct the substation. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096 and L29: 1346-3909	Consent Term:35 years
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Water Permit Consent Number RC07150/12	Cedar Creek Substation	To divert an unnamed stream to provide for construction and operation of the Cedar Creek Substation. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 1346-3917	Consent Term:35 years
Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/13	Sewage	To discharge treated sewage (blackwater and greywater) into land from facilities located at the staging area and substation. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2851-6070	Consent Term:35 years

Earthworks and Vegetation (Consents RC07150/14 – RC07150/19)

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/14	Dam, Staging Area & Associated Infrastructure.	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to construct and maintain a roller compacted concrete dam (including foundations), diversion channel, penstocks, powerhouse, substation, tailrace, staging area (including aggregate extraction pit, stockpiling area, production plant, buildings, settling ponds, diesel generators, water tanks), rock quarries, haul roads, permanent access roads, parking areas, log handling facilities, tracks, substation and transformers, communication system; and associated infrastructure on land adjacent to the bed of the Mokihinui River. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/15	Walking track	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to construct and maintain an access track on the true left bank of the Mokihinui River Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2907-6072 and 4131-6208	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/16	Dam Access Road & Power Supply	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to upgrade the existing Mokihinui-Seddonville road and bridges from the intersection with State Highway 67 to the construction site; and to construct, use and maintain 33kV power poles and lines. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2368-6355 and 2913-6086	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/17	Transmission Poles, Lines, Substation and Access Tracks	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to construct, use and maintain transmission poles, lines, substation and access tracks. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096 and L29: 1347-3909	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/18	Boat ramp/jetty	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to construct boat launching ramp and jetty facility, adjacent to the lake. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2936-6075	In perpetuity

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/19	Inundation Area / Lake	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to establish, repair and maintain the lake, including but not limited to slope stabilisation structures. Located approximately between grid references NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096 and 3974-6201	In perpetuity
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General Construction (Consents RC07150/20 – RC07150/23)

Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/20	Construction stormwater	To discharge stormwater; and coffer dam sealing material (silt or bentonite (clay) slurry) to water associated with all construction activities. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	Consent Term:35 years
Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/21	Construction stormwater	To discharge stormwater; and coffer dam sealing material (silt or bentonite (clay) slurry) to land (in circumstances which may result in the stormwater entering water) associated with all construction activities. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6083	Consent Term:35 years
Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/22	Plant Process and Drainage Water Construction	To discharge plant process water, site drainage water and contaminants into the Mokihinui River; via a treatment system. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2893-6097	Consent Term:35 years
Discharge Permit Consent Number RC07150/23	Dust and plant emissions	Discharge contaminants into air during construction and maintenance activities (including dust and emissions from plant). Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2885-6096	Consent Term:35 years

Access Roads, Walking Tracks and Recreational Activities (Consents RC07150/24 – RC07150/26)

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/24	Boat ramp/jetty	To disturb the bed of the lake to erect, use, and maintain a boat launching ramp and jetty facilities and a log boom. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2936-6075	Consent Term:35 years
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/25	Walking track	To disturb the beds of ephemeral, named or unnamed tributaries of the Mokihinui River to erect, use, repair and maintain culverts, fords and bridges to construct and maintain an access track on the true left bank of the Mokihinui River. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2907-6072 and 4131-6208	Consent Term:35 years

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07150/26	Dam Access Road	To disturb the beds of Waterfall Creek, Page Stream, Coal Creek, Burke and other ephemeral or unnamed tributaries of the Mokihinui River to erect, use, repair and maintain culverts, fords, and bridges to upgrade the existing Mokihinui Seddonville Road from the intersection with State Highway 67 to the construction site. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2368-6355 and 2913-6086	Consent Term:35 years
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Buller District Plan - Relevant Resource Consent Applied For:

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07/180-A	Dam, Staging Area & Associated Infrastructure.	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to construct, use and maintain a roller compacted concrete dam, diversion channel, penstocks, powerhouse, substation, tailrace, staging area (including aggregate extraction pit, stockpiling area, production plant, buildings exceeding bulk and height, settling ponds, diesel generators, water tanks), rock quarries, haul roads, permanent access roads, parking areas, tracks, substation and transformers, communication system; and associated infrastructure on land adjacent to the bed of the Mokihinui River. Noise and vibrations emissions from construction and lighting. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent. Consent Number RC07/180-B	Inundation Area	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to establish, repair and maintain the lake; and associated infrastructure including but not limited to slope stabilisation structures. Located approximately at the grid reference: between: reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096 and 3974-6201	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07/180-C	Walking track	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to construct, use and maintain an access track on the true left bank of the Mokihinui River; and associated infrastructure. To erect information signs about the dam and heritage sites Located approximately at the grid reference: between: NZMS 260 L28: 2907-6072 and 4143-6208	In perpetuity

Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07/180-D	Dam Access Road & Power Supply	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance; to upgrade, use and maintain the existing Mokihinui-Seddonville road and bridges from the intersection with State Highway 67 to the construction site, erect new bridge at Burkes Ck; and to construct, use and maintain 33kV power poles and lines; and associated infrastructure. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2368-6355 and 2913-6086	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07/180-E	Transmission Poles, Lines, Substation and Access Tracks	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance; to construct, use and maintain 110 kV transmission poles, lines, substation, storage and use of hazardous substances, and lighting and access tracks. Located approximately at the grid reference between: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096 and L29: 1347-3909	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07/180-F	Boat ramp/jetty	To undertake earthworks and vegetation clearance to construct, use and maintain the boat launching ramp and jetty facility, and associated infrastructure adjacent to the lake. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2935-6075	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07/180-G	Log Boom	To erect, use and maintain a log boom on the surface of the lake and associated infrastructure, including log handling facilities. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2935-6075	In perpetuity
Land Use Consent Consent Number RC07/180-H	Hazardous Substances	To use and store hazardous substances during the construction and the operation of the scheme. Located approximately at the grid reference: NZMS 260 L28: 2916-6096	In perpetuity

Meridian Energy Limited seeks to extend the statutory lapsing period for all the above resource consents to 10 years.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Following are A3 sized copies of the public notice that appeared in the Westport News and Greymouth Star on **Friday 14th March 2008** and the Christchurch Press on **Saturday 15th March 2008**. This public notice commences the period during which you can submit on the resource consent applications. The only difference between the notice as it appears in this document and the notice that was published in regional newspapers is size.

Insert A3 Public Notice