

Sample of the letter sent to submitters

9 October 2009

[Mailmerge]

Dear

Acknowledgement of your submission on the Waimakariri River Regional Plan (WRRP) Proposed Plan Change 1

Thank you for making a submission on the WRRP Proposed Plan Change 1, which proposes changes to the flow and allocation regime for the Waimakariri River mainstem and other minor changes in the Waimakariri River Regional Plan 2004.

Environment Canterbury staff have summarised the decisions requested in the submissions received in relation to WRRP Proposed Plan Change 1. Where necessary, clarification was sought from submitters. Enclosed, please find a CD Rom containing a copy of the notified 'Summary of the Decisions Requested' (SODR) and the original submissions. There is a period for further submissions in support of, or in opposition to, those submissions already made. The further submission period will close 13 November 2009, at 5pm. Please find attached a copy of the public notice which outlines the further submission process and where the documents can be inspected or obtained.

After the close of the Further Submission period staff at Environment Canterbury will then prepare officer reports that evaluate the submissions and make recommendations on each submission. These officer reports are provided to assist the hearing panel who may consider them at a hearing. The reports do not pre-determine how a submission will be dealt with by the hearing panel as the panel can choose to reject or accept the officer reports, or modify them as they see fit in coming to their decision on each submission. The officer reports will be made available to submitters who wish to be heard, at least five days before the hearing.

Environment Canterbury will then hold a hearing into submissions. All submitters who gave notice of their wish to be heard will be advised of the dates, times, and places of the hearing.

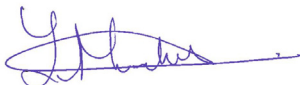
After hearing submissions, Environment Canterbury will serve on every person who made a submission on WRRP Proposed Plan Change 1 a copy of its decision on each provision, with reasons for its decisions. In the light of these decisions, the Waimakariri River Regional Plan will be appropriately amended and will be available for public inspection. Any person who made a submission on WRRP Proposed Plan Change 1 may lodge an appeal to the Environment Court against any provisions which they referred to in their submission and where they disagree with the Council's decision on their submission.

Following the resolution of any appeals to the Environment Court or subsequent appeals to higher courts, the final step in the process is for Environment Canterbury to make Proposed Change Plan 1 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan operative.

Thank you for your time and effort in making your submission, it is appreciated.

If you have any questions about the process, please contact Customer Services on 0800 324 636.

Yours sincerely



Lynda Weastell Murchison
Principal Planning Advisor

Our Ref:
Your Ref:
Contact: