Dear Members of the Board,

Thank you for the further opportunity to supply our submission which reflects our position as a resident and rate payer of the Palmerston North City Council that is directly affected by the proposed Mighty River Power Turitea Wind Farm.

Our property is in the upper margins of the Pahiatua Aokautere Road and is one of the closest properties to the proposed turbines in Group C. As a result of our previous submissions and the grateful considerations from the Board there were turbine deletions to some of the closest turbines within the 1km envelope of our property.

We see from the Mighty River (Second Statement of Evidence of Mark Alan Clive Henry) amended proposal that they have identified a LESS invasive site to place turbines east of South Range Road on the Tararua side of the ranges where there seems to be no residents that will be dominated by these turbines. We believe that the remaining north western turbines in Group C should ALL be relocated to this area providing there are no residents in this area that oppose to having turbines in their vicinity.

We hope that the Board and Mighty River will see the wisdom of relocating the following Group C’s turbines being 71, 70, 69, 68, 67, 96, 97 & 6 (Annexure C from the Second Statement of Evidence of Mark Alan Clive Henry). Relocating these to the back of the proposed wind farm would still make the wind farm viable and there would be a significant saving of infrastructure, roads and dump site proposals. By pursuing these alterations we believe residents are heard and not just made to bear the negative effects of having turbines within a 1.6km radius of dwellings.

We would also request that for those residents that are trapped within the 1.6km envelope, they will be given the option of selling their property to Mighty River or have a suitable form of mitigation offered to allow these residents an EXIT option and save on further mitigation requirements.

On a related matter regarding submissions, we would like it noted that we feel the allowance of slanderous submissions made by some submitters is a very unprofessional short coming and we would have thought that the Board would seek the agreement of parties named or indicated before allowing these submissions to be posted as the information supplied and indicated by these petty individuals has little or NO element of fact and is totally irrelevant to the nature of the Board’s enquiry. We also believe this is merely their short minded opinion of which we feel the only intent is to abuse a public platform for personal attacks due to the possible loss of financial gains from proposed turbines placed on or near their properties. Originally some of these individuals stated that their interest was “all about the environment” and “for our future and children”, but their latest opinions have now made their true position very clear to see, as it appears their focus has moved from supposed environmental support to declaring financial loss as a result of the possibility of losing turbines on or near their properties as being their true motivator.

We would appreciate if in future the Board could screen submissions and either removes non related personal comments from the said submission as being of NO relevance or restrict the circulation and publication.

Lastly we understand this project may be under political pressure but we strongly believe that concessions can be made to ensure that the minimisation of negative effects by relocating turbines and offering suitable and agreeable mitigation options to affected residents is the ONLY way forward.

Kind regards

Mike & Angela Grassick (Submitters No. 583)
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