Kenderdine cynically attempted to publicly place the blame on Horizons for the inevitable disastrous outcome of the Board of Inquiry. The “failure” of the Horizons Regional Council, however, was premeditated and predetermined.

Horizons was at the time involved in a very lengthy process of consultation for the ONE PLAN, which covered a raft of environmental issues, including inappropriate development on the Tararua and Puketoi Ranges.

Mighty River Power opposed the ONE PLAN, which has now been upheld by Judge Thompson in the Environment Court. Had the ONE PLAN been in effect neither the Puketoi nor Turitea wind farms would have gained consents.

Kenderdine knew this full well.

All along the whole process was shored up by the corrupt contract between MRP and PNCC, orchestrated by the government, and which imposed a $3 million dollar + penalty on PNCC if it obstructed in any way the development of the Turitea wind farm.

Kenderdine was fully aware of this contract. PNCC performing poorly with its finances had a gun to its head.

Judge: Horizons 'reprehensible'

BY GRANT MILLER

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Horizons Regional Council has had its planning efforts slated as "reprehensible" after turning up to a wind farm board of inquiry and having almost nothing to say.

Turitea Wind Farm inquiry chairwoman Judge Shonagh Kenderdine said yesterday it was poor that the regional council had so little to contribute to the decision-making process, but it was too late to do anything about it.

Horizons planner Philip Hindrup told the board of inquiry the regional council set policy, but relied on district and city councils to decide what was appropriate or inappropriate development.

"I think it is a very great pity," Judge Kenderdine said. "I think it's reprehensible that the regional council can vacate everything to district councils." The regional council's planning documents were important, she said.

Mighty River Power is seeking consent to build a wind farm with up to 104 turbines on the Tararua Range near Palmerston North.

Outside the hearing, Horizons regional planning group manager Greg Carlyon hit back, saying comments by the judge and board members were "unfortunate and unwarranted".
On August 31, the Environment Court's Judge C J Thompson ruled on points of the One Plan that could not be settled by mediation.

His rulings established some environmental bottom lines which could end up being applied nationwide, due to the appeal and precedent processes in courts.

Judge Thompson in his minute on the One Plan appeal dated 21 September 2012 states in paragraph {4}:

*If, after that process, a directly affected party believes it can still identify a significant error or omission in the redraft offered by the Court, the Court would be prepared to consider written submissions from that party, if lodged by 2 November 2012, as part of its review and approval process.*

So, what do we have here? Why an Environment Court Judge willing to face up to and correct identified errors in a legal document. Kenderdine refused to correct the abundant, egregious errors in the Turitea Final Decision, indeed how could she. She wasn’t a judge.

Judge Thompson complied with the judicial oath; Kenderdine just pocketed the loot and scarpered.