

UPPER CLUTHA ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY (INC.)

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

SUBMISSION ON A RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATION

To: CODC,
Principal: Resource Management,
PO Box 122,
Alexandra.

1. NAME:

Upper Clutha Environmental Society (Inc.),
245 Hawea Back Road,
Wanaka.
PH. 0211368238 Email: UCES@xtra.co.nz

2. ADDRESS FOR SERVICE:

PO Box 443, Wanaka (and see email above)

3. APPLICANT'S NAME:

Helios OTA Op LP

4. RESOURCE CONSENT NO:

APP240351084

5. DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION:

Land Use Consent to construct, operate and maintain a Solar Farm (Mānariatoto Plain Solar Farm), being a Renewable Electricity Generation Activity.

6. LOCATION OF APPLICATION

The location of the proposed Solar Farm is at 48 Ranfurly-Naseby Road, Naseby.

The Society supports the application in its entirety

The Society does not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Signed: Julian Haworth, President

Date: 18 December 2024

7. THE SOCIETY'S SUBMISSION IS:

The Society assesses the overall effects of the application to be positive.

While it accepts that the proposal is likely to cause adverse effects on landscape values that are greater than minor, the Society considers that the positive effects from the provision of renewable energy and associated battery storage will far outweigh these adverse effects.

8. THE REASONS FOR THE SOCIETY'S SUBMISSION:

8.1 The application represents sustainable management as described in Section 5 of Part 2 of the Resource Management Act. The overall actual, potential and cumulative effects on natural resources of the proposal will be positive because the climate change effects of the proposal will be strongly positive.

8.2 The application will to some extent conflict with matters in s.7 of the Resource Management Act and in particular s.7 (b) (c), (e), (f), and (g). However, when positive climate change effects are taken into account, the proposal will maintain or enhance the quality of the environment.

The adverse visual, natural landscape, rural amenity and cumulative effects of the development are easily outweighed by the positive effects of the provision of solar energy and associated battery energy storage.

The Society considers that the visual effects of solar power are significantly less than those associated with wind power, especially large-scale wind turbines.

8.3 The Society strongly supports the provision of the battery energy storage system as part of the solar farm. The Society is aware that many similar large-scale solar/battery storage developments have been successfully built in places such as Australia, California and Texas, among others.

8.4 The Society considers that granting consent for the application will set a positive precedent for other such developments in NZ.

9. THE SOCIETY'S SUBMISSION WOULD BE MET BY COUNCIL:

Granting consent for the application in its entirety.
