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SUBMISSION ON NOTIFIED APPLICATION CONCERNING RESOURCE CONSENT

(Form 13)

Section 95A Resource Management Act 1991

To: The Chief Executive
Central Otago District Council
PO Box 122
Alexandra 9340
resource.consent@codc.govt.nz

DETAILS OF SUBMITTER

Full name: William John McIntyre

Contact person (if applicable):

Electronic address for service of submitter: bill_mcintyr@yahoo.com

Telephone: 022 345 5622

Postal address (or alternative method of service under section 352 of the Act):

11 Pery Street, Ranfurly 9332

This is a submission on the following resource consent application: RC No: **240065**

Applicant: **Helios OTA Op LP** Valuation No: **2828012800**

Location of Site: **48 Ranfurly-Naseby Road**

Brief Description of Application: **Land Use Consent to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Solar Farm (Maniatoto Plain Solar Farm) being a Renewable Electricity Generation Activity in a Rural Resource Area.**

The specific parts of the application that my submission relates to are:
(give details, attach on separate page if necessary)

Site Waste, Decommissioning and Site Remediation, Management of Fires and Other Emergencies

This submission is: (attach on separate page if necessary)

Include:

- whether you support or oppose the specific parts of the application or wish to have them amended; and
- the reasons for your views.

see attached

I/~~We~~ seek the following decision from the consent authority:
(give precise details, including the general nature of any conditions sought)

see attached

I ~~support~~/oppose the application OR neither support or oppose (select one)

I wish / ~~do not wish~~ to be heard in support of this submission (select one)

I ~~am~~/am not* a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991 (select one)

~~*I/We am/am not (select one) directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:~~

- ~~(a) adversely affects the environment; and~~
- ~~(b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.~~

~~*Delete this paragraph if you are not a trade competitor.~~

~~I~~**We** will consider presenting a joint case if others make a similar submission

**Delete this paragraph if not applicable.*

I ~~request~~/do not request (select one), pursuant to section 100A of the Act, that you delegate your functions, powers, and duties to hear and decide the application to 1 or more hearings commissioners who are not members of the local authority. "See note 4 below as you may incur costs relating to this request."

W. McIntyre
Signature

19/12/2024
Date

(to be signed by submitter or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter)

In lodging this submission, I understand that my submission, including contact details, are considered public information, and will be made available and published as part of this process.

Notes to submitter

1. If you are making a submission to the Environmental Protection Authority, you should use form 16B.

The closing date for serving submissions on the consent authority is the 20th working day after the date on which public or limited notification is given. If the application is subject to limited notification, the consent authority may adopt an earlier closing date for submissions once the consent authority receives responses from all affected persons.

2. You must serve a copy of your submission on the applicant as soon as is reasonably practicable after you have served your submission on the consent authority.
3. If you are a trade competitor, your right to make a submission may be limited by the trade competition provisions in Part 11A of the Resource Management Act 1991.
4. If you make a request under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991, you must do so in writing no later than 5 working days after the close of submissions and you will be liable to meet the additional costs of the hearings commissioner or commissioners, compared to our hearing panel. Typically these costs range from \$3,000 - \$10,000.
5. Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least 1 of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):
 - it is frivolous or vexatious:
 - it discloses no reasonable or relevant case:
 - it would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further:
 - it contains offensive language:

it is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence, but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.

**Information for the second and third sections of Page 2
of the Submission on RC No. 240065
by W J McIntyre**

Site Waste

The installation of over half a million solar panels will create a lot of waste to be dealt with. My research tells me solar panels are usually packed in sturdy cardboard boxes often reinforced with other materials. Inside the boxes, solar panels are cushioned with materials like foam or bubble wrap to absorb shocks and vibrations. Multiple boxes are often placed on a pallet for easier handling and transport. The pallets are secured with straps or shrink wrap to keep everything in place. That's potentially a lot of recyclable and non-recyclable rubbish.

I can't find anything in the application that mentions how site rubbish of all kinds is to be dealt with. Everyone knows that farmers have a habit of digging big holes and putting their rubbish in them. Is this the plan here too or are they going to burn it? Worse still have they even given it any thought?

I'm guessing out of 550,000 panels some will be damaged in transit or be faulty – how will these be disposed/recycled?

Will it further strain local landfill and recycling. Will it be at ratepayers' expense. Where will the trucks be coming from and going to and has this been considered in the construction traffic calculations?

There will also be general waste from a 200+ workforce eating and drinking on site for 6 days a week for two years – that's going to be a lot of bottles, cans, takeaway coffee cups and sandwich wrappers.

I am asking the Council to ask for a Waste Disposal and Minimisation Plan before consent is granted.

Decommissioning and Site Remediation

What is going to happen at the end of the solar farm's life? As far as I can see there is a loose promise to return the site to its present condition but that's about all.

I know this is reasonably far into the future and I will probably be dead but for those who will still be here I am sceptical that this will happen.

I am asking Council to get a bond from the developer that allows for an amount that will cover decommissioning and recycling and also allows for inflation etc. This is already happening in the United States so will not be unexpected by the developer.

Management of Fires and other Emergencies

This is not adequately covered in the application and is of great concern to me. Grass fires are a constant worry in our hot, dry, windy months and battery fires have been getting some bad press lately.

I'm also concerned about the additional strain that could be placed on our local volunteer ambulance crews and medical centre by potential construction accidents. Will there be any sort of medical assistance on site e.g. a site nurse?

I am asking council to ask the applicant for a detailed Emergency Management Plan that is honest about the risks and takes local conditions into account. I'm not sure how the process works but I also ask that we, the affected communities get to look at and comment on the Plan before consent is granted.

Signed: W. McIntyre

Date: 19/12/2024