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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.consents@codc.govt.nz



DETAILS OF SUBMITTER

Full name: Amanda Clare Cheesmur

Contact person (if applicable):

Electronic address for service of submitter: cheesmurnz@gmail.com

Telephone: 021 187 3407

Postal address (or alternative method of service under section 352 of the Act):
163 Barneys Lane
Ranfurly 9397

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)

The whole proposal, specifically noise from the plant,
lack of landscaping to hide the plant, fire risk + lack
of detail as to what will happen at the end of the project

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.

I oppose the development. I believe the scale of
this project is too great for the community it is
within and I fear we will be left with a
toxic waste site.

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

Decline the application.
If approved, significantly more details on fire risk,
contamination risk and effective clean up at the end.

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."



Signature

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

18/12/24

Date

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.

The Chief Executive
Central Otago District Council
PO Box 122
Alexandra 9340

Dear Codc

RC240065 – Submission on Application by Helios Op LP to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Solar Farm in the Rural Resource Area at 48 Ranfurly-Naseby Road

This letter is to support my completed submission form.

My submission relates to the entire proposal.

I am concerned as to how much noise will be generated by the cooling systems used to cool the transformers. More details is needed on the specific transformers.

I am very concerned that the battery storage is now 32 containers when it started off as 2. This represents a lot more concrete infrastructure to put them on, and increased fire risk. The number of batteries on site has the potential to release considerable contamination in the event of a fire and this can place a risk to the quality of our precious ground and surface water, which feed into stock and potable water supplies. More details are needed on exactly what batteries they are using, as some are deemed safer in the event of fire . Is this huge increase in battery storage so that the company can make huge amounts of money from energy trading? I suspect that is the case.

Landscaping to hide this huge plant will take years to grow. In the mean time I believe this will greatly affect the beauty of the area and therefore will make the area less appealing to tourists which will have a negative effect on our town and community.

And then my biggest concern of all is that we will be left with a toxic wasteground at the end of the project which has happened all over Europe. The applicant has stated that they are responsible for the clean up and remediation of the site at the end of the 35-year project lifespan (back to its original condition). They also note that the solar panels will need to be replaced in about 20-25 years.

We need extremely robust consent conditions in place to protect the landowner and others from having to do the clean-up in the event the applicant defaults on the development for any reason. This should include a bond of some sort based on a realistic cost to deal with the waste in 35 years' time. Where does waste like this need to be taken? Does New Zealand have facilities to deal with expired solar panels on this sort of scale?

Conclusion

This risk and uncertainty around this proposal far outweighs any "benefit to the community" - of which I can see very little anyway.

Yours faithfully



Amanda Cheesmur