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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: _Richard Michael Garden

Contact person (if applicable):

Electronic address for service of submitter: sarge.marion@gmail.com

Telephone: 0220114501

Postal address (or alternative method of service under [section 352](#) of the Act):
P.O. Box 132t, Naseby

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:
All of it.

This submission is:

I Strongly support the application in all its aspects

The reasons are.

I have had my own solar system at my home for nearly three years and it has been a wonderful investment.

The proposed solar farm has the following benefits.

It allows the land to be used for electricity generation while also retaining sheep grazing - a complementary use to ongoing agriculture that does not require irrigation. Sheep can be grazed under and around the panels.

- It is of a scale necessary to contribute to New Zealand's growing renewable energy needs, now and into the future.
- Solar farms are now the cheapest form of new renewable energy generation globally.
- The project is in close proximity to Transpower's Naseby substation and the National Grid, but in a working farm environment and not visible from Ranfurly or Naseby townships.
- Solar farms are low-lying compared to other forms of renewable energy generation such as wind farms, and the panels and will be screened by the existing shelterbelts and new planting
- The proposed solar farm would represent a ~\$420 million investment in the region. The construction period of 24 months would generate 200-250 construction phase jobs and significant contract opportunities for local suppliers. This includes earthworks, civil and electrical contractors, fencing, plant nursery contracts, aggregate supply, logistics and trucking, hospitality and accommodation for workers.
- Solar farms are silent, produce no emissions, and have no negative impacts on the soil or groundwater, evidenced by numerous existing projects globally
- Solar farms reduce the need to burn fossil fuels to power our country.
- Solar farms have a relatively short development and construction time. This makes them a far more desirable and effective way to create new energy supply. When compared to developing new gas fields with a ten plus year development timescale and that is after having to actually find the new fields and of course the ongoing greenhouse emissions from gas burning.

I am concerned about the misinformation and outright lies being circulated by some of those in our community who are opposed to this development. I hope that decisions on this project will be made on established facts and not some of the fact free scare mongering that is being circulated.

I seek the following decision from the consent authority:

That the authority approves this consent in its entirety.

I support the application.

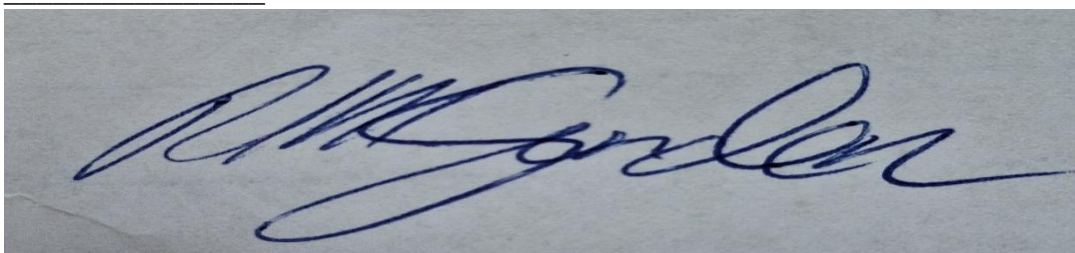
I do not wish to be heard in support of this submission

I am not* a trade competitor for the purposes of [section 308B](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991

***I am not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:**

(a) adversely affects the environment; and

I do not request, 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 Date 5/12/2024

(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.