

Email: info@tppp.nz “Attention: Proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan, Further Submission”

Details:

Name: Robyn Langridge

I am submitting as an individual.

I would not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

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Email: lrobbi57@gmail.com

Signature: RS Langridge Date: 17/07/23

Yes, I wish to speak to my submission

Yes, I would consider presenting a joint case if others make a similar submission.

The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are:

-All sections

My submission:

I wish to add an amendment to my submission designation. While it states in the summary of submissions, I supported the Proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan, I suggested the TTPP be stopped until greater diversity at governance level and navigating it online be improved. So I do not support the TTPP document, as I do not agree with it in its current form.

I am stating this now clearly, please, if possible, amend to “I Oppose” the TTPP.

2) In my submission I suggested the TTPP be halted in search of more balanced decision making, I wrote:

“2) Improve Diversity in our decision making, to ensure document is “balanced”.

I wish to extend on this point now and draw attention to a TTPP committee governance decision.

In a media release in November 2021, the TTPP committee chair stated “The exposure draft is about making sure we have got the fundamentals right in the Plan, its workability, and anything else that needs to be considered before we release the proposed plan in July 2022,” said Chair Williams.

The exposure draft of the TTPP was released for community input in early 2022 and as I understood it, the proposed re-zoning of farmland on the Barrytown flats to a Mineral Extraction Zone, received the most feedback of any topic. The majority of community residents/ratepayers raised concerns and asked that it be removed, planning staff with expertise paid to formulate and

advise on the plan also recommended it be removed, and yet, the TTPP committee decided to leave it in to go to the submission stage.

I find that really concerning.

I say that is not ok, and I ask where else in forming the document so far, might something like this have occurred?

It concerns me because:

1) unlike paid participants in the process, regular ratepayers and residents are not getting compensated financially at all for any of their time spent on this. So what they say, and having the motivation to participate in it, should be treated most fairly and respectfully, especially if they are to live amongst such a rule. Their ratepayer funds are contributing to this process, and it is *their* plan first and foremost after all.

2) This is just the only one instance I know about, as the TTPP is a massive document to navigate, and this one decision by the committee, has affected myself and my community directly.

It makes me wonder how much time and energy has been placed in areas, in contrary to ratepayer/resident's wishes, or in contrary to expert advice, to the detriment of other equally or more important matters?

This could mean the TTPP as a draft policy is full of errors, or open to much legal challenge down the track. The likes of which our district can not afford. So I do not support the TTPP going further.

3) Too much focus on extractive industries

In my submission I also wrote:

'By increasing community participation, and adjusting, diversity at governance level, and in our rule making, may give Papatūānuku, a greater respect and prominence in the TTPP.'

The horse seems to have bolted regarding governance, (ie the process is continuing as it stands).

While this process was put on us by central government, we could be using this opportunity to strengthen our region as a nature capital of New Zealand, through district plan rules, not undermining (pun intended) legislative protections through plan rules that make mining activities more permissive. Various rules and statements in the draft plan, seem to exist in order to remove barriers to mining activities.

The fact is whether we are too shy to admit our love of nature or no, we have some of the best stretches of wilderness-at near to original format, as close to nature designed it, in the world. Our combined district plan should tread carefully with rules around industry and "human development" and support this gift.

We need a TTPP plan that's effective and is written well, and with balance and genuine intention, to serve the wide diversity and potential of this community.

Not just like on the above occasion, prioritise rules that benefit a particular industry, instead of the ratepayers who have to live amongst such a rule.

What's it to be West Coast though this TTPP, district policy that supports Untamed Natural Wilderness.

Or Untamed Unnatural Industries?

4) TIGA Minerals And Metals

I oppose all submissions by TiGa Minerals and Metals.

TiGa state, point 2 on page one of their supplementary sub, with such certainty that

“TiGa has an interest in TTPP that is greater than the interest that the general public has”.

I want to urge the committee, and other decision makers involved down the track to please see this situation clearly.

The above statement by TiGa is baseless.

Big companies (largely off-shore funded) which have more money to pay people to draft submissions, at a greater level than the average person- could really skew the process in their favour – if statements such as the above are believed.

These submission processes can be daunting, technical and time consuming for ratepayers/residents / “the general public”.

No company should be given any more consideration in policy making than the people who live here in this community, year in year out,- which TiGas statement could be seen to imply. TiGa's concerns should have, if anything, less weight in shaping our Regional rules.

TiGA clearly has a vested interest- they have a mining license currently from Canoe Creek to the Northern end of a geographically distinct, quiet and naturally stunning part of the West Coast's Coast Road. And they also intend to submit a consent application to both councils, to mine for Heavy Mineral Concentrate on the Barrytown Flats. It is no surprise that they would also like the Mineral Extraction Zone to be extended to cover most of the Barrytown Flats.

Moreover, to devalue the Coast Road property values for residents, (and there are many residents new to the area), by encouraging the making of Barrytown into a Mineral Extraction Zone is no boon for the community they wish to ensconce their Heavy Mineral Concentrate mining in.

5) I oppose any submissions received on the TTPP, that supports a Mineral Extraction Zone on the Barrytown Flats. I apologise for not being able to locate and name them, individually from within the document.

The Barrytown Flats should be kept Mineral Extraction Zone free.

Such a designation as MEZ would make local people pay, through a variety of downstream negative lifestyle/rural amenity, environmental, and even possibly social effects, through increased mining, - whilst instantly reducing the value of their properties.

In our pursuit of finding the many dollar signs that sit under the ground, by way of minerals, other more progressive zonings or initiatives could have been missed here.

The Possibilities are endless to capitalise on being a nature capital of New Zealand. We could have had a Notable Drive Zone - to safeguard that amazing status as one of the top 10 Coastal drives in the world the Coast Road holds (voted by well-known travelling guide Lonely Planet). A lot of people in the tourism industry have worked many years, helping to promote the Coast Road, and the rest of the coast's popularity as a destination. The visitor experience and reputation of a region, is cumulative over many years, and takes a lot of work by good people in the tourism industry. As a natural wonderland, and positive human experience, many businesses on the Coast Road survived through the dark recent times of closed borders, thanks to a domestic visitor market that really loves the Coast.

With its warmer sea current and temperate growing environment, Barrytown Flats could have more fittingly, been zoned as a Food Growing Zone too. Digging everything over can ruin good soil for a long time, - including through mining and hydrological disturbance. Rules that protect good food growing conditions, such as retaining healthy soils, would likely gain positive title and uphold, property values not detract from them. Good soil is disappearing at an alarming rate, due to our past ignorance of how it works, and the fact it is being mistakenly killed off by industrial activities is a real global focus right now.

The Coast Road could have a Dark Skies Zone, to retain our dark skies (the stargazing is amazing) or an Avifauna Protection Zone to minimise bird disturbance (the birdlife here, with the only Taïko breeding colony and other species are too, worth recognising).

The Coastal strip that is the Coast Road at Barrytown, does not need less regulation on disturbance and sediment-creating mining activities. There is also a strong connection too with water health, erosion, and coastal health on this lowland strip.

A most alarming, and present fact, is that the bull kelp of the Coast Road is dying, (much of it has died already) which is a real concern. We all want to be able to safeguard and have a healthy enough shore to support food gathering for now and future generations here. Kelp plays a huge part in the ecosystem – it has been suggested, kelp supports communities of sea-life here, in a way similar to coral reefs.

What vegetation remnants and wetlands remain too, such as those on the Barrytown flats are rare, and are really important winter habitat for birds, freshwater biota and herpetofauna. Connectivity (though biodiverse areas) has dwindled massively over time due to increased clearance and drainage and disturbance in lowland New Zealand.

Mining profit should not be prioritised by district zoning rules, over retaining rural zoning values for West Coast people, or natural areas, and especially not in our important remaining few (still partly vegetated) lowland coastal environments like the Barrytown flats.