

Online submission

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Joint presentation	Yes
Trade competition	I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
Directly affected	N/A
Withhold contact details?	No

Submission points

Plan section	Provision	Support/oppose	Reasons	Decision sought
General Rural Zone	GRUZ - R12	Oppose	<p>The permitted activity under this rule (mineral extraction of up to 20,000m³ a year per property and 3ha at any one time) provides inadequate control where large-scale sand mining is proposed on several adjacent land parcels as is the case on the Barrytown Flats. Here there are 6 current mining permits issued to local artisanal sand miners totalling 88.4 ha. All of these are coastal and do not immediately affect residents. By contrast, one company, TIGA Minerals and Metals Ltd., has two exploration licenses covering 797ha and a mining licence covering 800ha of the Barrytown Flats . TIGA's permits cover several farms and numerous land parcels. They have a declared aim of mining the whole of the Barrytown Flats (Greymouth Star, 06/09/22).</p> <p>GRUZ-R12 would permit TIGA to begin large-scale sand mining on several properties on the Barrytown Flats, with cumulative effects on traffic (10 heavy vehicle truck movements per day per property), dust, noise, light pollution, amenity values, wildlife disturbance and potentially other unanticipated effects.</p> <p>GRUZ-R12 is therefore not fit for purpose and needs to be removed. Mineral extraction should be regarded as a Restricted Discretionary or Discretionary activity (GRUZ - R25) in areas such as the Barrytown Flats with a mix of Rural Lifestyle and General Rural Zones, thereby allowing for appropriate levels of community consultation and adequate oversight of the consenting of mineral extraction operations.</p>	Remove GRUZ R12 and make Mineral extraction a restricted discretionary activity in Rural Zones.
Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity	ECO - P3	Support	It is in particular the support of communities as well as landowners to regenerate and/ or protect land on behalf of the council that I find important. Working bees are a great way to bring people together. There should be incentives for people who want to regenerate their land by planting natives and providing habitat for native fauna.	I fully support this provision and hope that this will be an approach the council will take at a larger level
Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity	ECO- O1	Support	I support the initiative to identify habitat of native flora and fauna across the West Coast as this will pave the way to further, much needed, protection.	Support strategic objectives

Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity	ECO - P4	Support	The growing, future population on the West Coast will need income sources that work in harmony with the environment. This does not mean that nature should become a commodity rather than an intact environment will mean reliable and sustainable forms of income for a thriving community	Provide for eco tourism activities that complement and enhance the native flora and fauna of significance
Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity	ECO - P10	Support	Sea level rise and erosion are only beginning to show along the coast and already the effects are harrowing. It is inconceivable to zone an area as shown on map 39 in the Grey District Zoning as a Mineral Extraction zone. The area is clearly in coastal proximity and adjoining a wetland and therefore no large scale mining should take place here.	Protect indigenous biodiversity in the coastal environment from inappropriate subdivision, use and development and negate any resource consents for mineral extraction on coastal, low lying land
General Rural Zone	GRUZ - R25	Amend	This should be modified to take into account the cumulative effects of mining taking place simultaneously on adjoining areas of land. A provision should be included on the maximum local transport movements the dust, noise, light pollution and disturbance to residents, the local wildlife and surrounding water bodies.	To amend the rule taking into account the cumulative effects of mining on adjoining properties as proposed on the Barrytown Flats

Mineral
Extraction Zone

MINZ

Amend

MINZ Objective O2 states: To ensure exploration, extraction and processing of minerals within the MINZ - Mineral Extraction Zone minimises adverse effects on the environment, the community and the relationship of Poutini Ngāi Tahu with their ancestral lands, sites and areas of significance, water, wāhi tapu and other taonga.

Develop new MINZ rules relating to the management of sand mining activities in support of MINZ - O2

Documents included with submission

None

The proposed Heavy Mineral Concentrate (HMC) mining operations on the West Coast are a recent development and the large, industrial style nature of them is quite different from existing artisanal/ small scale activities.

The company TIGA Minerals and Metals Ltd and Westland Mineral Sands Ltd are confidently predicting that their operations will expand greatly in the next few years, digging over estimated 50 million tonnes of heavy mineral concentrate and potentially covering an area of 1600 of the Barrytown Flats.

These developments stand in stark contrast to the developments amongst communities on the Barrytown Flats with properties and land having become more and more desirable in the last couple of years and more people moving into the region. It is young families and older people seeking a peaceful natural lifestyle, sustaining themselves by working in tourism in local businesses. These are also the people that have a long term investment in the region and that pay rates as well as support retail in Greymouth and Westport.

TIGA for example, promises to become one of the largest employers on the West Coast in the next few years. Employer to whom though? Not the local population. It is a well known reality that most mining companies employ overseas fly in fly out staff. What sort of community might this lead to? A transient, work oriented kind with little interest in the natural qualities of this beautiful area nor in the improvement of this community.

It is incredibly frustrating to see that it appears councils will happily support these large corporations who waltz into this area without much thought about the already existing population. Many of us are being called Nimbys for not wanting this operations on our back door but I ask any of you, would you? In addition, it is clear that we have enough resources extracted already to go around for hundreds of years. There is no need to start large scale operations like these which are in no way sustainable or environmentally friendly (using heavy, diesel powered machinery to extract minerals to then trundle them along a brittle SH6 to a far away destination).

Much of this activity will be on low lying, coastal land. I invite you to take a walk along the Barrytown beach to see the devastating effects of sea level rise and erosion in the last 7 years alone. Rather than excavate the land even further initiatives should be sought to regenerate and protect this land and the communities behind it.

Therefore I ask for the following to be considered

- * HMC mining should always be Discretionary
- * No night time trucking
- * A maximum of truck movements to be established with the first resource consent and any subsequent applications will be limited to the designated maximum allowable truck movements minus the existing consented daily truck movements from other mine sites.
- * Monitoring of the cumulative effects such as noise, dust and light pollution
- * There should be an active dialogue between the council and the communities living along the truck route to better understand the effects on tourism or other businesses. Some of the effects can be much further away from the actual mine site so a broader view is necessary
- * Council should notify and consult with the wider community along the coast road rather than exclusively the directly affected parties