

## **TTPP VARIATION 2: Oral Submission - 19 March 2025**

**10:20am Rae Reynolds**

My plea today is simply an appeal to conscience. That part of your conscience that relates to fairness.

I appeal for fairness because I don't believe that anyone attending this hearing can appeal the proposed Variation 2 Hazard Zoning based upon debating the facts.

This is because facts do not constitute the basis upon which the proposed Hazard designations have been concocted. Facts have been sought and appealed for but no established scientific data to prove the chosen model has been supplied. This has been frustrating. This has been limiting. This has been unfair.

The Hazard designations were concocted through the creative art of modelling which builds in perceived suppositions of what could possibly occur in 100 years time. You will find eminent scientists debating both sides of the theories that make up predicted climate science. This is because it is not facts based. There are too many variables.

Despite the differing opinions and broad range of variables you seek to threaten our livelihoods and our chosen distinctive way of life based upon the predictions and suppositions of your choosing. Already we are paying the price for a one sided belief system that will not and cannot substantiate its claims with facts.

The Hazard Zone designations already in effect for Westport were rushed upon us while we suffered post flood trauma. This 2021 flooding was of an unprecedented nature, with the most widespread flooding coming from the Orowaiti River caused largely by the neglectful collapse of a major protection wall on the Buller and exacerbated by gravel build-up. Our Councils had received warning of this years before. Nothing was done. Other man made factors also exacerbated this inundation of our town.

All this has taught me that our Councils are not focused upon managing the beautiful assets of our coastal settlements. Townships that had been managed, protected, cared for and maintained throughout many generations.

Instead Climate Blame has become the catchall for negligence, empire building, wasteful spending, pipe dreams and ridiculous time wasting pseudo-inclusion such as we have suffered from this highly faulty and disrespectful submissions process.

Please hear our voices.