

Submission Form 16 to the Otago Regional Council on consent applications

This is a Submission on (a) limited notified/publicly notified resource consent application/s pursuant to the Resource Management Act 1991.

Submitter Details:

(please print clearly)

Full Name/s: Stephen William Bennett

Postal Address:

██████████

██████████

Post Code:

██████

Phone number:

Business:

██████████

Private:

██████████

Mobile:

██████████

Email address:

████████████████████

I/ we wish to **SUPPORT / OPPOSE** / submit a ~~NEUTRAL~~ submission on (circle one) the application of:

Applicant's Name:

And/or Organisation: Dunedin City Council

Application Number: RM20.280

Location:

Smooth Hill

Purpose:

Landfill

The specific parts of the application/s that my submission relates to are: (*Give details*)

I was born, and have lived most of my life in the Brighton area. My parents took me swimming in the Otokia Stream, as I did with my children, and I take my grandson swimming at the beach and in the stream. I do not want to have the possibility of contaminants entering the water that flows down the water-course, onto the beach and into the sea at Brighton. I also fish off our coast, and have seen first-hand the impact of the outflow from the Kaikorai Stream, and the condition of fish in that estuary. It is environmentally irresponsible to subject our community and the people who visit and enjoy the recreation opportunities that our area has to offer, to this sort of risk.

The proposed area on Smooth Hill is surrounded by forestry and the possibility of fire risk from the landfill is high. Our area, including Smooth Hill is serviced by a dedicated group of volunteer fire fighters, who would be attending any fire that did take place. With no town water supply there, all firefighting would need to take place with tankers – putting added time pressures on any efforts to stop the fire spread. There are a number of lifestyle blocks in this area (all consented by the DCC) that would be severely at risk in the event of a fire.

Landfills attract seagulls, and the proposed Smooth Hill site is within the impact area for the Dunedin airport – surely the DCC and therefore the ratepayer would be liable for any resulting incidents

including bird-strikes on planes !! It is thoroughly irresponsible to put anyone's lives at risk in this way. Another by-product of the increase in seagulls, would be the impact on the existing native falcon population in the area. These falcons are a protected species, and therefore putting a landfill in their breeding areas may drive them away or threaten their existence from scavenging for food.

The Smooth Hill area is right on top of the Akatore Fault – if an earthquake were to occur, the so-called “liner” of the landfill would not be sufficient to stop an environmental discharge into the headwaters of the Otokia Stream, and in turn down to the Brighton township and beach. This risk is increased by the DCC taking all sorts of hazardous materials at the landfill like asbestos, poisonous material and the like.

As a so-called “green” Council – I would challenge the ethics of building a landfill in this day and age when the onus and expectation is for environmentally sustainable options – like industrial incineration etc.

The investigation into the possibility of siting the landfill at Smooth Hill took place 30+ years ago, and I was one of the objectors to this at the time. The “science” behind the investigation is outdated and no longer valid in this day and age. This outdated information, and the fact that the consent was lodged only days before the changes to the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater would have prohibited a landfill at this site – appalling that the DCC would consider this !!

My/Our submission is *(include: whether you support or oppose the application or specific parts of it, whether you are neutral regarding the application or specific parts of it and the reasons for your views).*

For the reasons above, I thoroughly oppose this application for consent on behalf of my surviving parent, my wife, children and grandchildren

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

Decline the application !!

I/we:

- ~~Wish to be heard in support of our/my submission~~
 Not wish to be heard in support of our/my submission

If others make a similar submission, I/we will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

- ~~Yes~~
 No

I, **am/am not** (choose one) a trade competitor* of the applicant (for the purposes of Section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991).

**If trade competitor chosen, please complete the next statement, otherwise leave blank.*

I, **am/am not** (choose one) directly affected by an effect as a result of the proposed activity in the application that:

- a) adversely affects the environment; and
- b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

I, **do/do not** (choose one) wish to be involved in any pre-hearing meeting that may be held for this application.

I **do/do not** request* that the local authority delegates its functions, powers, and duties to hear and decide the application to 1 or more hearings commissioners who are not members of the local authority.

I **have/have not** served a copy of my submission on the applicant.

Steve Bennett

14 November 2021

Signature/s of submitter/s

(or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter/s)

(Date)

Notes to the submitter

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.

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.

Privacy: Please note that submissions are public. Your name and submission will be included in papers that are available to the media and the public, including publication on the Council website. Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the notified resource consent process

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.

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 may be liable to meet or contribute to the costs of the hearings commissioner or commissioners.

You may not make a request under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991 in relation to an application for a coastal permit to carry out an activity that a regional coastal plan describes as a restricted coastal activity.

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 address for service for the Consent Authority is:

Otago Regional Council, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin, 9054
or by email to submissions@orc.govt.nz