

Philip Parcell
"Janefield"
3RD
Cromwell

17 March 2016

To the Panel of the Otago Regional Plan

My name is Philip Parcell and I have a commercially viable farm on the lower main Tarras Irrigation Race, I purchased the farm 38 years ago, and have lived here all my life. I was delegate for Lindis Irrigation for many years when the government owned it, and the Lindis Scheme was the most cost effective scheme in Central Otago, designed specifically for irrigation, not for gold mining.

Until 3 weeks ago I have been excluded from all meetings of the Lindis Irrigation Group because the Lines drawn by the ORC, East of Highway 8, made my farm ineligible for taking water from the Lindis River after 2021.

Approximately \$200,000 held in reserve for repairs etc accumulated by the Lindis Irrigation Company, of which I am a founding shareholder, has been squandered opposing Fish and Game and ORC. I am now contributing a 10% compounding levy on my existing water rates to continue funding this battle, even though I am going to lose ALL access to irrigation water.

It will soon be uneconomical to afford this water, and I will be forced to abandon the scheme, then my farm will return to the natural desert state that it was 100 years ago.

It's not personal, I've known many of the Ardgour and Lindis farmers all my life, but this is a conflict over water instigated by ORC because they are forcing the closure of this magnificent Tarras scheme, and this is very divisive in our farming community.

It is frustrating for me to discuss with the ORC official, who has spent 20 years previously with the Catchment Board, and who insists that I have the alternative of the Clutha River as a solution to this impasse... But this is NOT an economic solution because this will cost me \$1,000,000.

I have NO easements to the Clutha, and have offered my farm to Charles Kain, a neighbour, but was declined, and rumours that my other neighbour offered to buy my farm are incorrect.

I HAVE had expressions of interest but at less than half the farm's GV to allow for the \$1m expenditure which makes it then worth less than a 3acre lifestyle block.

As I said in my Submission to the ORC Proposed Plan I do need the Church Creek to be allowed to flow in it's natural course, for stock water, and to keep my wild life ponds alive.

It was put to me as recently as the Wanaka Show, March 12 not for the FIRST time, the question.... would the Ardgour Race be capable to taking the extra flow from the closed Tarras scheme?
By closing the Tarras scheme, the Ardgour farms will get TWICE the water. And the new Lindis Pass irrigators, will also benefit from the Tarras race being forcibly closed.

I would like to thank the panel very much for the opportunity to be able to express my viewpoint.

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