

**BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER APPOINTED BY
THE OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management
Act 1991 ("the Act")

AND

IN THE MATTER BSTGT Ltd and A P McQuilkin, N
J McQuilkin, K L Skeggs, S A
McQuilkin and G M Todd being
Trustees of the A P McQuilkin
Family Trust

Consent Application RM19.151

STATEMENT OF ANTONY PATRICK MCQUILKIN

**GALLAWAY COOK ALLAN
LAWYERS
DUNEDIN**

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INTRODUCTION

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

1. My full name is Antony (Tony) Patrick McQuilkin and I am self-employed. My business career over 36 years was as an executive, director and shareholder of Real Journeys Ltd. I am a patron, former trustee and former Chairman of the Queenstown Trails Trust, a committee member for the Wakatipu Greatest Needs Fund, and trustee of the Leslie Hutchins Conservation Foundation. I graduated with a BSc in Geology and in addition to tourism, I have experience in farming, ecological restoration, and in the transport industry. I headed and implemented the ecological restoration project at Walter Peak, removing wilding pines and establishing native foreshore planting. On my own property, we have cleared gullies of noxious plants and established over 7,000 native plants to date.
2. I have resided on the Crown Terrace for 20 years, purchasing land from Glencoe Station in 1998. I used to work on Glencoe Station with hay making in 1974, and the associated flood irrigating. I have good knowledge of the landforms and watercourses on the Crown Terrace and, therefore, the associated hydrology I have a fair understanding of the geology of the Crown Terrace, and the geomorphological processes that formed the terrace.
3. I designed and built the irrigation infrastructure on my own property (underground piping, storage pond etc). I understand and have viewed the construction and operation of the infrastructure and irrigation processes on the neighbouring property owned by BSTGT Ltd, also known as Barley Station.
4. I have been provided with a copy of the Environment Court's Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the Courts Practice Note 2014. I confirm that the matters in this evidence are within my knowledge and expertise and I have not omitted to consider any material matter that could influence my opinion.

BACKGROUND

5. My evidence provides an overview of the irrigation scheme serviced by the three abstractions that are the subject of the consent application. This is supplementary to the description provided in the consent application and subsequent amendments.

NEW CHUMS CREEK

6. Water is taken from New Chums Creek and conveyed via a combination of pipes and open races across the terrace, finally connecting to the Brodie Race above Glencoe Rd. Underground piping for farm irrigation is in place down to Glencoe Rd.
7. A new, 7,500 m³ pond, known as the New Chums Pond, is currently under construction.
8. The New Chums Creek intake can be controlled via a sliding gate valve, which will be adjusted as required so as not to exceed the proposed annual limits and to ensure that the proposed residual flows are maintained. A meter and telemetry measures are in place near the start of the race.
9. As noted above, the New Chums Race was built circa 1880, initially for mining. Subsequently, the race has provided water for flood irrigation, and then efficient irrigation (travelling irrigators and K lines) in more recent years.

NORTH BRANCH OF THE ROYAL BURN

10. The upper point of take on the North Branch of the Royal Burn take is controlled by a sliding gate valve that will be adjusted as required so as not to exceed the proposed annual limits and to ensure that the proposed residual flows are maintained.
11. Water is then piped to an established storage pond (13,000 m³), shown on the image attached as the Royal Burn Pond. From here, a 200 mm underground line conveys water for farm irrigation and golf course

irrigation. The natural slope of the terrace provides 90 m of head and good pressure.

12. A water meter and telemetry are in place near the storage pond.
13. A very sophisticated "TORO NSN" operating unit controls the golf course irrigation. Water is piped underground to 350 sprinkler heads that can be independently computer controlled in respect to volume delivered, duration and timing. Irrigation can be programmed to occur at night to reduce evaporative loss.
14. Farm irrigation is by way of travelling irrigators and K Lines from ports off the main line and laterals.
15. The lower point of take on the North Branch of the Royal Burn is also controlled by a sliding gate valve that will be adjusted as required so as not to exceed the proposed annual limits and to ensure that the proposed residual flows are maintained. A water meter and telemetry are in place near the start of the Brodie Race.
16. The Brodie Race was built in 1923 predominantly for farming. Large sections of the race are now piped.
17. The Brodie Race follows the hill contour on Barley Station and supplies the recently-constructed Brodie Pond (5,000 m³). Water can be pumped up from the Brodie Pond to the golf course and also gravity feeds farm irrigation onto the paddocks below.
18. Prior to construction of the Brodie Pond, some water would flow unused through the Barley Station property, through downstream neighbouring properties, and then eventually drop back into the Royal Burn. The pond has been designed to capture and store this water so that it can be used more efficiently on the Barley Station property.
19. The golf course uses fescue grass on the fairways. I understand that fescue is kept "on the edge" (i.e. not overwatered) so as to provide a good playing surface. Mechanical coring and slicing practises keep the grass lean and non-thatchy. This further reduces requirements for fertilisers and chemical. Fescue requires less nutrient than for example

Brown Top grass. Irrigation is delivered so as to allow water to get to the grass roots but avoiding run off.

20. The McQuilkin take is from the Brodie Race just beneath Glencoe Road. From here, water is piped underground to the McQuilkin property and then reticulated throughout the property via 125 mm lines from which ports enable K Line to operate. A 400m³ pond provides storage, and a venturi system facilitates the distribution of water further down the property.

MONITORING SUMMER 2020-21

21. At the requests of our consultants, I collected photographic and video evidence at various locations on the north branch and main stem of the Royal Burn almost every week from the end of November 2020 until the end of March 2021.
22. A map showing the relevant monitoring locations is attached. I understand that our consultant, Hilary Lennox, will be making the photographs and videos available. Ms Lennox, Mr Hickey and Dr Olsen can respond to questions regarding what this evidence shows.

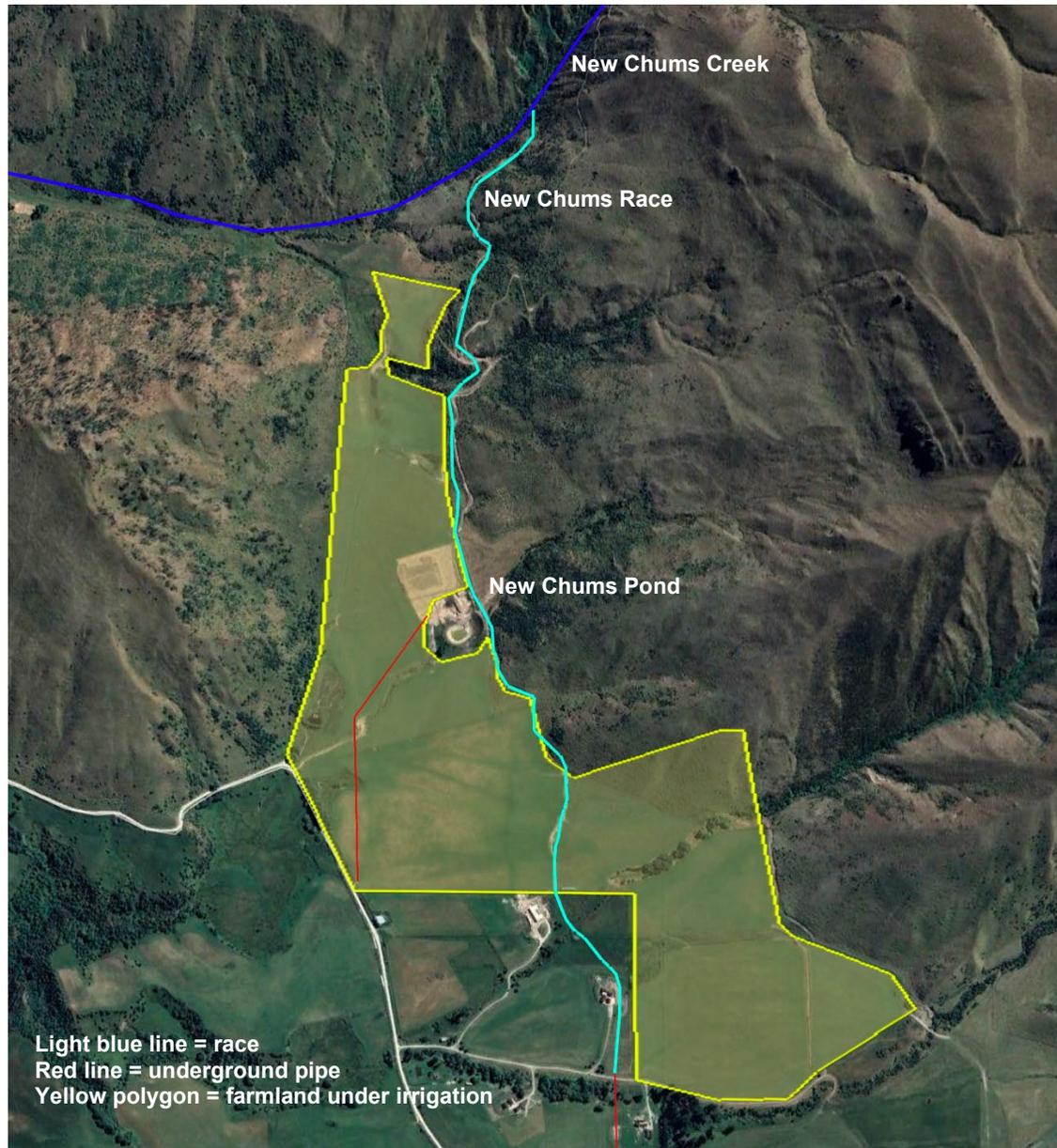
Tony McQuilkin

Date:

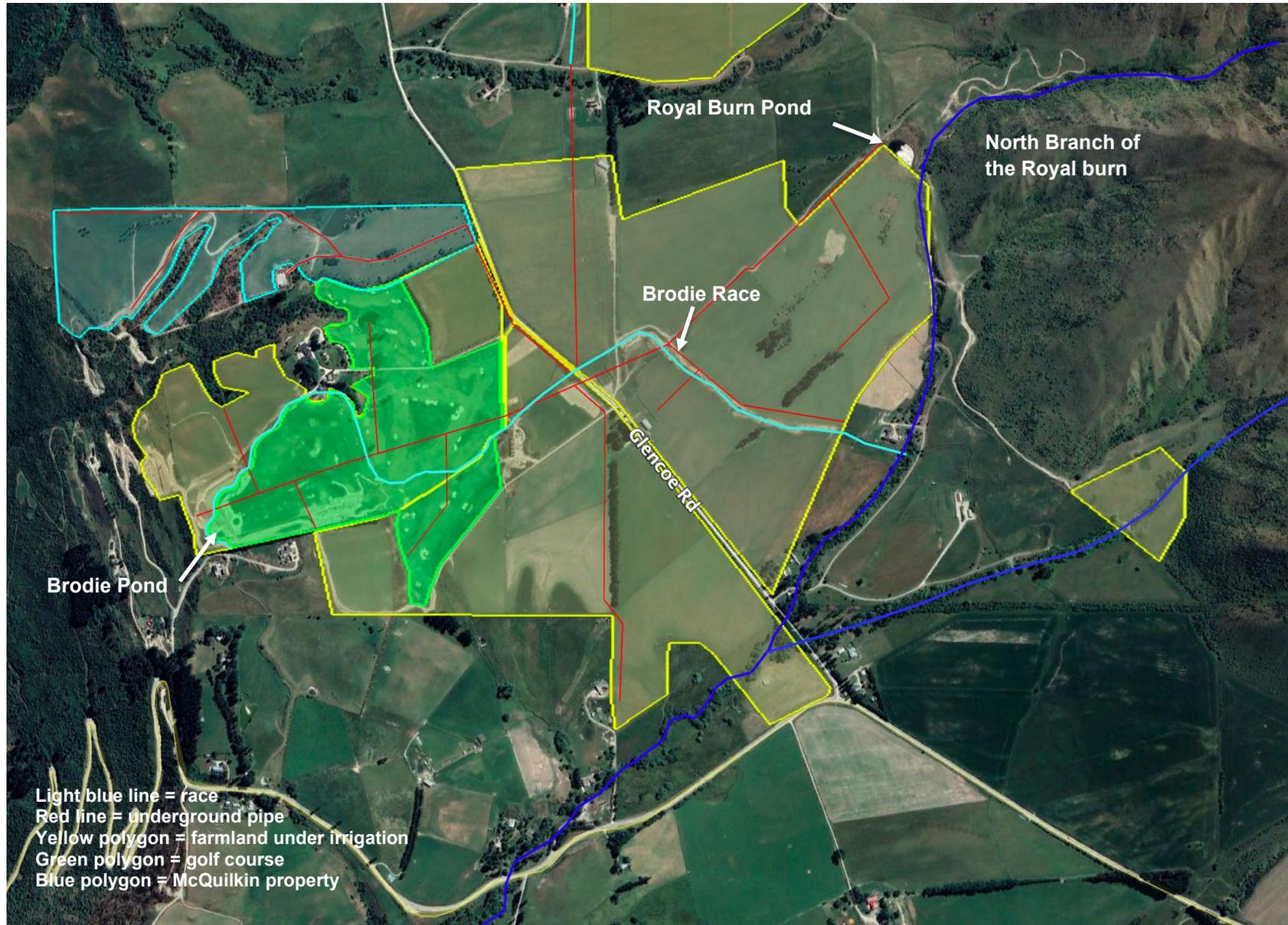
Attachment 1A - New Chums Infrastructure

Attachment 1B - Royal Burn Infrastructure

Attachment 2 - Photographic monitoring locations summer 2020-21



Attachment 1A: New Chums Infrastructure



Attachment 1B: Royal Burn Infrastructure



Attachment 2: Photographic monitoring locations summer 2020-21