



Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ

PO Box 1604

Wellington

administrator@fmc.org.nz

Director-General
Department of Conservation
PO Box 5244
Dunedin 9058
Attention: Kelvin Brown, Permissions Advisor
Phone: +64 (0)3 474 6915
Email: kibrown@doc.govt.nz

REF: OT-34110-SKI (Intention to grant a variation to a concession to NZSki)

FMC represents 20,000 members of over 80 tramping, climbing and other outdoor recreation clubs throughout New Zealand, and also the interests and concerns of the estimated 300,000 New Zealanders who enjoy backcountry recreation. Many of our members enjoy visiting the Remarkables Conservation area both for climbing and walking in summer and for skiing (both on the ski area and backcountry), ice climbing and mountaineering in winter.

FMC does not oppose the installation of the underground pipe as we believe avoiding the need for the removable temporary pipe will improve the wilderness values of the area. We are also confident in the applicant's ability to perform the required earth works to a high standard with good remedial outcomes.

FMC's concerns relate to the construction period required to bury the pipeline. As stated in the report:

There is no doubt that the landscape effects during the 1-2 month construction period in high summer will be unavoidable and significant. A 20 tonne excavator operating in this environment will be highly visible, noisy and will create a 9m wide temporary line in an otherwise pristine environment. Any approval of this proposal will have to accept these effects during construction.

It is worth noting that this negative experience will be suffered by all people in the Rastus Burn basin. The noise and visual disturbance will negatively impact not only people at the lake but also people walking and climbing on the surrounding mountains.

The Lake Alta area has experienced significant increase in recreational usage in the summer period. We believe the figure of 100 people per week measured in 2011 has been superseded and is now more likely to be approximately 400 people per week (based on car counts on random days in January and February).

This increased visitor usage has placed an environmental strain on the Lake Alta area especially due

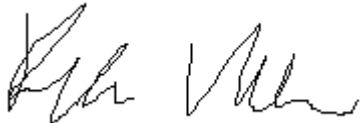
to the lack of toilet facilities in the area of the proposed pipeline.

FMC seeks the following:

1. Considering the negative experience afforded by visitors during the construction period that the applicant fully fund or significantly contribute to the construction and maintenance of a toilet facility in the area between the top of the Alta Chairlift and Lake Alta.
2. That the disturbances created by the movement and work of the 20 ton digger constructing the pipeline be co-ordinated with efforts to improve toilet facilities in the area.

In summary FMC would like there to be a positive outcome for the environmental cleanliness and recreational facilities in the Lake Alta area as compensation for the disturbance during the construction phase of the pipeline.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Wilson', written in a cursive style.

Peter Wilson
President