

28 January 2011

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Director General
Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy
Department of Conservation
Private Bag 5
Nelson 7042

Attention: Sean Magee (smagee@doc.govt.nz)

SUBMISSION

Application for Concession

Lake Matiri Power Scheme, New Zealand Energy Limited

Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc. (FMC) has over 90 member clubs which represent some 16,000 members of tramping, mountaineering, climbing and other outdoor clubs throughout NZ, and indirectly represents the interests and concerns of many thousands of private individuals who may not currently be members of clubs but who enjoy recreation in the back country.

1. FMC neither supports nor opposes this application.

2. In the event the concession is granted then:
 - (a) The conditions of both resource consent and concession should be diligently monitored and rigidly enforced.

 - (b) The proposal seems likely to increase the recreational use of the valley, this in turn is likely to increase the level of expenditure DOC will in time need to make as a result. This and ongoing monitoring costs need to be taken into account when setting rental.

 - (c) This application to operate a commercial operation is site specific to and relies on this publicly owned land. The department should not be handing over a public resource to profit making private enterprise for anything less than full and proper rental.

 - (d) The “Public Good” aspect is at the least equalled by the ecological degradation therefore a discount recommendation should not be approved.

- (e) Rather than offering a cheap deal FMC would like DOC to maximise its return from this proposal and use the income generated to subsidise, preferably 100%, hut fees for under 18 year olds at Angelus Hut. This high standard hut falls outside the Great Walk and in summer the Back Country Hut regimes and is correspondingly expensive for youthful users.
3. We do not wish to be heard.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Glasson
Secretary