

I'd like to briefly explain our farm on the boundary of the proposed subdivision. My daughters are the fifth generation that have grown up here, and cared for this land. Kaitiakitanga is the word that expresses how we feel about the connection, and guardianship we have of our rural area and land. My family has farmed alongside the owners of the land, (of the proposed subdivision) cared for and supported each other over many years, and this explains our protectiveness we feel for it.

There is no doubt that a town on the boundary will change the culture of the ruralness we have in this area. Consider strategies to protect the character and quality of the area: single story homes. No caravans /tents. Build within 2 years of ownership.

1. Possible complaints against our normal farming practices: Such a tractor noise with harvesting, haymaking, silage, pest control – shooting of rabbit / hare. Noise and smell from stock – cattle and sheep- cropping, weaning, docking. Chain sawing, smoke from fires (burning barley stubble), spraying paddocks. No complaints covenant's across the subdivision.
No drones , fireworks.

2. Stock water. Often we have summer droughts in this area. Would like to see limits on bore water - no selling of bore water, watering of lawns or washing cars during droughts so we don't struggle for drinking water for our stock.

3. Safety: The length along our boundary is 1.2 kilometers. The current fencing is for stock – a 7 wire fence with an electric wire along the top, running 6,000 volts. If children were to climb the fence and touch the electric wire, this will result in an electric shock, possible exit burn, cardiac arrhythmia – AF, myocardial damage. (cardiovascular Medicine, 2018 Case: 33yr old.) If people were to get through or climb the fence – there is risk of injury from machinery, implements such as mowers, harvesters.

4. Dogs worrying stock is a huge concern for us. Dogs may get through the fence and cause damage or kill stock. If each house has only one dog = 300 at least
more robust fence and trees / hedge buffer on subdivision side? .

5. Loss of grazing likely. Noise from 312 homes – trucks / machinery building. Cars, radios, dogs, children, drones, fireworks. Stock – cattle / sheep will be stressed near the fence, they are not likely to graze near the boundary fence for at least 100 meters back from the fence – for the length of the boundary fence of 1.2km resulting in loss of approximately 11.4 Hectares of grazable land.

6. Development work . Trucks may bring in gravel containing weeds , on the vehicles and in the gravel / soil, that would could spread through the fence – adversely affecting our grass (as outcompetes productive pasture (aggpest.co.nz) and cause health issues for stock. Weeds such as chillian needle grass and yellow bristle grass

(often found around roading areas/ shingle pits. Known to “jump the fence”.
(trc.org.nz)

7. Length of time frame for development. Please consider reducing this 15yr period, due to the above concerns – every day is a risk of impacting on stock (noise stress), risk of weeds introduced.
8. Monitoring of E.Coli and nitrate run off / leaching from the 312 houses onto our property (may affect our testing and reporting to Regional council: Farm environment management plan for plan change 6) if levels go up – this will significantly affect our farming practice - reduce numbers of stock / amount of fertiliser.