

Form 13

**Submission on application concerning resource consent that is subject to public notification by consent authority**

To: Waitomo District Council  
PO Box 404  
Te Kuiti  
Email: [info@waitomo.govt.nz](mailto:info@waitomo.govt.nz)

**Submitter Details**

**Name of Submitter(s) in full:**

Natasha Willison on behalf of Marokopa Paa Environmental Team

**Electronic Address for Service:**  
(email address)

takutaimarokopa@gmail.com

**Postal Address for Service:**

(or alternative method of service  
under section 352 of the Act)

5a Sloper Avenue Frankton Hamilton

**Primary Address for Service:** (must tick one)

**Electronic Address** (email, as above)

**Or:**

**Postal Address** (as above):

**Telephone** (day):

**Mobile:**

02102914094

**Contact Person**

(name and designation, if applicable)

Natasha Willison

**Application Details**

Application Number: RM200019  
Name of Applicant: Taumatotara Wind Farm Limited  
Application Site Address: Taumatotara West Road, Te Kuiti

**Description of Proposal**

Marokopa Paa has been involved with this resources consent since its inception. We have support the decision of the Te Runanga o Ngati Mahuta and also are aware that this is private land, and do have respect for the Land owners the Haper whanau.

**Submission Details** (please tick one. Note: click on a box to 'tick' it)

I/we support all or part of the application

I/we oppose all or part of the application

I/we are neutral to all or part of the application

I AM a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991

I am NOT a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991

I AM directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:

- a) adversely affects the environment; and
- b) does not to relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition

I am NOT directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:

- a) adversely affects the environment; and
- b) does not to relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition

**The specific parts of the application that my/our submission relates to are:**

## 1 Environmental impact:

- Noise levels: What will be the expected decibel levels of the wind turbines, and how will this impact local residents and wildlife?
- Wildlife: What species might be affected by the wind farm, and how will this be mitigated? Are there any threatened or endangered species in the area?
- Visual landscape: How will the wind farm impact the local visual landscape? Will it be visible from nearby residential areas, and will it negatively impact the aesthetics of the area?
- Water quality: Are there any concerns about the wind farm affecting nearby water sources? How will these concerns be addressed?
- Soil stability: Are there any concerns about the impact of the wind farm on soil stability in the area, particularly given the height of the turbines?

## 2 Community impact:

- How is Mātauranga Māori and local Iwi tikanga and history been taking into consideration?
- How is Te Tiriti o Waitangi been implemented in this process from its inception to now.
- Nearby residents: What is the distance between the wind farm and nearby residences? Will there be any potential impact on property values or quality of life for local residents?
- Safety: Are there any potential safety concerns with the wind farm, particularly given the proposed height of the turbines? Will there be any impact on traffic on nearby roads?
- Quality of life: Will the wind farm have any impact on the quality of life for local residents, particularly in terms of noise or visual impacts?

## 3 Energy production:

- Output: What is the expected output of the wind farm, in terms of energy produced? How will this contribute to the regional energy mix?
- Reliability: How reliable is wind power in the region? Will the wind farm be able to provide consistent energy, or will it be subject to fluctuations based on weather patterns?

## 4 Economic benefits:

- Job creation: How many jobs will the wind farm create, both during construction and ongoing operations? Who will benefit from this?
- Local economic impact: What will be the economic impact of the wind farm on the local community? Will it bring in any new businesses or opportunities? Or power at lower costs to our people

## 5 Compliance with regulations:

- Safety: Will the wind farm meet all safety regulations and standards? Are there any concerns about the safety of the project?
- Environmental impact: Will the wind farm meet all environmental regulations and standards? Are there any potential environmental risks that have not been adequately addressed?

## 6 Alternatives:

- Alternative sites: Have alternative sites for the wind farm been considered? If so, why were they rejected in favor of the current location?
- Alternative technologies: Are there any alternative technologies that could be used instead of wind turbines? If so, why were they not chosen for this project?
- Mitigation measures: Are there any potential mitigation measures that could address concerns about the wind farm while still allowing it to proceed?

## 7 Cultural Impact Assessment:

- Has a cultural impact assessment been conducted and if so whom by? And if not why not?

Who are the mana whenua been spoken too?

In Maori culture, bats (or pekapeka in the Maori language) are considered to be taonga, or treasures, and are protected under the Treaty of Waitangi. Bats hold a special place in Maori culture. Bats are significant to Maori for a number of reasons, including their cultural and spiritual significance, their ecological importance as pollinators and seed dispersers, and their role in traditional medicine. Bats were traditionally used for medicinal purposes, and different parts of the bat were used to treat a range of ailments, including fever, rheumatism, and childbirth complications.

Today, the protection of bats is an important part of Maori conservation efforts. How has this been taken into consideration.

There is evidence of bats in the Tahaaroa and Marokopa areas on the west coast of New Zealand's North Island. Long-tailed bats (pekapeka-tou-roa) have been recorded in the region, and the area is considered to be important habitat for these endangered bats. Long-tailed bats are New Zealand's only native land mammals, and they play a key role in pollination and seed dispersal in native forests. As with any proposed development in the area, the potential impacts on bat populations would need to be carefully assessed and mitigated as part of the environmental impact assessment process.

The Australasian harrier, or kāhu, is a large bird of prey that is found throughout New Zealand. It is listed as "at risk - recovering" under the New Zealand Threat Classification System, and its conservation is also a high priority. Kāhu are significant to Maori. Are these found in the area too?

8 Archaeologist Assessment:

- Has a AS been carried out if yes where is the report and if no why not?

9 Department of Conservation:

- What is the report from DoC and have they had input into the sites, plants, water, bird life and Bat life?
- Has DoC offered a map and identified where our taonga are in these areas and if they are affected in this particular application

10 Health and Safety:

- What research has been drawn on for health and safety?
- According to the Worksafe New Zealand, there have been some accidents and fatalities associated with the wind energy sector in New Zealand. In terms of injuries, Worksafe New Zealand reported that there were 10 serious harm incidents in the wind energy sector between 2014 and 2018. Is there any latest stats and if so what are they from are they from propeller dislocation? Or other issues?.

11 Life Span and deconstruction of structures:

- What is the life span and what happens when they are not in use anymore?
- Will they be deconstructed? If not what happens and do they have a water or land pollution issue?

**The reasons for my /our submission are :**

*(use additional pages if required)*

**The decision I /we would like to**

**he Council to make is:**

(give details including, if relevant, the parts of the application you wish to have amended and the general nature of any conditions sought. Use additional pages if required)

Our submission is to tautoko our whenua, waterways, life in general including animals, plants and people. We also understand it is private land and do respect the landowners and just want to make sure they are aware of issues we are raising.

PLEASE See above our submission and items of discussion.

We would like to support Ngati Mahuita and also hear the views of the land owners before any decision is made by council.

---

### Heard in Support of Submission at the Hearing

I/we wish to speak in support of my/our submission

I/we do not wish to speak in support of my/our submission

---

### Signature

Signature:

- Electronic signature

Date:

Signature: Natasha Willison



Date: 11 April 2023

#### **NOTE TO SUBMITTER:**

- Council must receive this completed submission before the closing date and time for receiving submissions for this application. The completed submission may be emailed to [info@waitomo.govt.nz](mailto:info@waitomo.govt.nz)
- The closing date for serving submissions on the consent authority is the 20th working day after the date on which public or limited notification is given. If the application is subject to limited notification, the consent authority may adopt an earlier closing date for submissions once the consent authority receives responses from all affected persons.
- You must serve a copy of your submission on the applicant as soon as is reasonably practicable after you have served your submission on the consent authority.
- Only those submitters who indicate that they wish to speak at the hearing will be sent a copy of the section 42A hearing report.
- If you are a trade competitor, your right to make a submission may be limited by the trade competition provisions in Part 11A of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- If you make a request under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991, you must do so in writing no later than 5 working days after the close of submissions and you may be liable to meet or contribute to the costs of the hearings commissioner or commissioners. You may not make a request under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991 in relation to an application for a coastal permit to carry out an activity that a regional coastal plan describes as a restricted coastal activity.
- Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least 1 of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):
  - it is frivolous or vexatious;
  - it discloses no reasonable or relevant case;
  - it would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further;
  - it contains offensive language;
  - it is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence, but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.

The information you have provided on this form is required so that your submission can be processed under the Resource Management Act 1991. The information will be stored on a public file held by Council. The details may also be available to the public on Council's website. If you wish to request access to, or correction of, your details, please contact Council.