

Sue Cotton
WESTPOWER LTD
146 Tainui Street
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GREYMOUTH

Dear Sue,

Re review of:

**ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED
WAITAHA HYDRO SCHEME ON WHIO/BUE DUCK (HYMENOLAIMUS
MALACORHYNCHOS)**

Draft Report (June 2014)

Prepared by Fred Overmars, Sustainability Solutions Ltd Christchurch

It was a delight to read the June 2014 draft of Fred Overmars's report. It is comprehensive, well reasoned, thorough, and rich in detail. All relevant information and field observations have been tracked down, summarised and considered. The analyses are sound and the conclusions that Fred has drawn from them are entirely appropriate.

I have reviewed many AEEs over the years and would rate Fred's report as one of the best I have seen. There is only one section of the report where our Interpretations differ - where the significance of the blue duck population in the Scheme Area is assessed in relation to various RPS criterion - with Fred suggesting that significance thresholds are triggered for 6 criterion, whereas I think it is for 4 criterion. But I hasten to point out that it is common for ecologists to weigh findings in slightly different ways, and the differences between us in this

part of the report do not flow through to the conclusions, with which we are unanimous.

In conclusion, this report on the assessment of the Scheme's effects on blue duck is thorough and appropriate.

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

John McLennan PhD QSM

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