
From: Andrew Leadley [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 15 May 2024 2:10 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: Submission to WDC
Attachments: ScanWDCSub(2).pdf; Submission WDC.pdf

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Hi, find attached the Submission Form and the Submission in PDF format.

Regards Andrew Leadley

Submission To the Waitomo District Council on Proposed Changes.

The particular block that this new rate will apply to is in the Mairoa district. I have owned it since about 1970 it is only 11.5 hectares with 9 hectares in forestry the rest is swamp and native bush along the stream.

In May 1998, we harvested 2110 tonnes of logs, and in April 2003 we harvested the last block of 3290 tons making a total of 5400 tonnes or 120 truckloads an average of 45 tonnes per load. This block is 20 Km from the state highway. If you work purely on the RUC (Road Users Charge) the best fingers I can find is \$673 for a truck and trailer with 8 axles for all RUC weights. $\$673 \text{ divided by } 1000 \text{ km} = 0.673 \text{ cents}$ x by 20 km to state highway = \$13.46 per truck or \$1615.2 for 120 trucks. This is not even one and a half times what you plan to charge a year on my block \$1165.60!

I see the Wairoa District Council has a forestry rate which it has won in court to continue but it only applies to areas of 100 hectares. Their rate is \$36.30 per hectare, far less than you are proposing. At the current rate, we will pay an additional \$1165.60 per year. Interestingly, in your consultation document, the problem is that the CV of forestry properties needs to reflect the true value of the trees. Well at the current price for logs, it is not economical to harvest our block and with the current outlook, and the future outlook there is no way I would be replanting this block or another area. Some other questions. What about the blocks that have been planted for carbon credits but will never be harvested? What if a cyclone devastated the forest are you going to refund the forestry rate paid? What if the forest catches fire and is destroyed will you refund it? These are some of the problems of charging for something that may not happen, who knows what will happen in 20 years

Under Assets Roothing you have a Road Damage Deposit can you not utilise this more? Or put a charge per Km per truck from the nearest state highway you are going to charge a forest that is 5 km from the main road as one that is 40 Km.