

Sample submission to oppose a resource consent application for a chickens bred for meat (broiler) intensive farm

[Date]

To the [X] Council

Re: Resource consent application [number of application]

I live within [X] kilometres of the proposed farm. [add this sentence if you live within the local area]

I object to application [number of application] by [applicant/company name]. My primary concerns regarding this application relate to:

Traffic: The trucks and cars that would be arriving and leaving the proposed operation would significantly increase traffic volume and noise, particularly during the night. The increase in traffic volume would also be a safety risk on our narrow rural roads.

Noise: The use of heavy machinery during construction and daily operation would cause substantial noise, as would the farming of [X number of] chickens.

Odour: The smell that would be produced would be highly offensive for those living and working near the proposed farm (provide more detail as appropriate).

Air quality: Dust, smoke or gas emissions caused by the incinerator that would be used to burn the chicken litter and dead bodies, and the waste air from ventilation of the sheds, would harm air quality for a substantial area around the site.

Groundwater: The proposed amount of groundwater to be used by the operation is excessive, and could affect adjacent water users and groundwater reserves.

Water pollution: Wastewater and effluent storage and disposal could contaminate the nearby [name of stream/river] and bore water of neighbouring properties. Dust and emission particles may also contaminate the water supply of surrounding properties that use tank water collected from their roofs.

Human health: There would be health risks to local people, especially to children at the nearby school, due to the dust and emissions.

Local biodiversity: Local biodiversity would be negatively affected by either displacement, habitat destruction or habitat contamination.

Animal Welfare: All chickens raised commercially for their meat in New Zealand are breeds that have been selectively bred to grow at an unnaturally fast rate, which leads these animals to suffer severe health problems. The rapid increase in the chickens' weight decreases their ability to walk, and thousands die every day or are culled due to painful lameness, heart failure or other diseases before their scheduled slaughter at only a few weeks of age.

With regards to my concerns about animal welfare, I note that the purpose of the RMA is "to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources," and that "sustainable management" is defined to include "avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment" (section 5).

"Environment" is defined in the RMA broadly to include "ecosystems and their constituent parts," and "all natural and physical resources." "Natural and physical resources" are defined as including "all forms of plants and animals" (section 2). Therefore, the adverse effects on animals which would occur should this consent be granted must be given serious consideration.

On these grounds, I strongly urge you to decline the consent application.

I [*wish/do not wish*] to be heard in support of my application. [*choose whether you want to do a verbal presentation at a hearing if there is one*].

Yours sincerely

[*signed*]

Name
Address
Phone
Email