

NOTICE

WATER SHORTAGE DIRECTION

OPIHI RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

The Canterbury Regional Council notifies the following Water Shortage Direction pursuant to Section 329 of the Resource Management Act 1991. The notification relates to the present serious temporary shortage of water and the restriction on the taking of water under resource consents from the Opihi River and its tributaries. This notice does not include the Temuka River and its tributaries.

Interpretation

'Normalised daily take' means:

- (a) The daily volume but if there is no daily volume; THEN
- (b) The daily volume (calculated as the consecutive daily volume divided by consecutive day period) but if there is no consecutive daily volume; THEN
- (c) The daily volume (calculated as flow (l/s) x 60 x 60 x 24 / 1000).

'**Dam Company**' means Opuha Water Limited which holds water permit CRC950578.1 to release water from Opuha Dam to augment flows, generate power and supply shareholders and which is the owner and operator of the Opuha Dam.

'**Affiliated Consent Holders**' means entities holding permits to take water from the Opihi River and/or its tributaries and holding water shares in the Dam Company.

'**Affiliated Above Dam Consent Holders**' means those Affiliated Consent Holders whose permits are tied to minimum flows on: the North Opuha River at Clayton Rd Bridge; South Opuha River at Clayton Rd Bridge; or Opihi River at Rockwood.

'**Non-affiliated Consent Holders**' means entities holding permits to take water from the Opihi River and its tributaries that do not hold water shares in the Dam Company.

'**Other Consent Holders**' means entities holding water permits to take water for private or community reticulated domestic and stockwater water supply schemes.

Dam Operation

1. The Dam Company shall operate the Opuha Dam in accordance with the existing consents CRC950577.5 and CRC950578.1 **EXCEPT THAT** when the water level in Lake Opuha is below RL385 and is equal to or above RL380 metres above mean sea level in terms of Lyttelton Datum (1937), the Dam Company shall maintain a minimum flow, at Opihi River at Saleyards of at least 5.0 cubic metres per second.

Restriction on Abstraction for Irrigation by Shareholders of Dam Company

2. When the water level in Lake Opuha is equal to or above RL385 metres above mean sea level in terms of Lyttelton Datum (1937) the Affiliated Consent Holders, who hold an entitlement to be supplied by the Dam Company, shall comply with their current consent conditions.

3. Except as provided by Clause 4, when the water level in Lake Opuha is below RL385 metres and is equal to or above RL380 metres above mean sea level in terms of Lyttelton Datum (1937) the Affiliated Consent Holders, who hold an entitlement to be supplied by the Dam Company, shall reduce the *normalised daily take* to no more than 75 percent of the maximum allowable *normalised daily take*.
4. Restrictions to the *normalised daily take* as specified in Clause 3 shall not apply to Affiliated Consent Holders registered on a rostering system, as administered and managed by the Dam Company. Affiliated Consent Holders registered on the rostering system, shall reduce to no more than 75 percent of their maximum allowable take calculated over a four day period (calculated as the *normalised daily take* x 4).

Restriction on Abstractions for Irrigation by Affiliated Above Dam Consent Holders

5. When the water level in Lake Opuha is below RL385 metres and is equal to or above RL380 metres above mean sea level in terms of Lyttelton Datum (1937), restrictions on the consents held by the Affiliated Above Dam Consent Holders shall be determined by the minimum flows in the waterways to which they are tied being at: the North Opuha River at Clayton Rd Bridge; South Opuha River at Clayton Rd Bridge; or Opihi River at Rockwood.

Restriction on Abstraction for Private or Community Reticulated Domestic and Stockwater Water Supply Schemes

6. When the water level in Lake Opuha is equal to or above RL385 metres above mean sea level in terms of Lyttelton Datum (1937) the Other Consent Holders shall comply with their consent conditions.
7. When the water level in Lake Opuha is below RL385 metres and is equal to or above RL380 metres above mean sea level in terms of Lyttelton Datum (1937) the Other Consent Holders shall reduce the *normalised daily take* to no more than 87.5 percent of the maximum allowable *normalised daily take*.

Terms of Notice

8. This notice is current for a term of **14 days** from the issue of this notice. This notice may be amended, revoked, or renewed by the Regional Council.

Lake Opuha water levels are available at the Canterbury Regional Council's website www.ecan.govt.nz. Click river flows then southern region then scroll down to Opuha Lake.

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