

Col Perks
80A Fraters Road
RD1
Martinborough
5781
9-9-2015

Attn: Erin Berry
Thames-Coromandel District Council
Private Bag,
Thames

Ref No: RMA2013/184, 206A Silverstream Falls Row, Whenuakite

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the submission for an application for resource consent from Serenity Retreat Ltd at 206A Silverstream Falls Row, Whenuakite.

I wish to **oppose** the submission for the following reasons:

The Effect of Noise

While the proposal talks to a minor impact on noise, this is a purely empirical assertion with little bearing on the subjective experience.

Silverstream and other areas of the Coromandel whose environment is carefully managed regenerating forest, mostly unencumbered by human influence, are quiet places. The night is punctuated with the sounds of the nocturnal habitat (the Kiwi, the Ruru). Even the rumble of State Highway 25 recedes during mid-evening. This environment is being carefully managed by authorities within the Coromandel, include TCDC.

Any human sound during evenings is obvious, as there is so little of it. 25 weekends of music (and potentially more) “not exceeding council guidelines” is, in my opinion, the opposite of *serenity*. In my experience the low frequency of contemporary bass-generating equipment can travel for many kilometres. These frequencies will be obvious to anyone in a wide area.

Noise becomes an “arms race”; once our world is polluted with it, we compete by generating our own to dull out that which is external.

This “noise everywhere, all the time” is the basis for our cities, and has no place in rural Coromandel.

The social environment

The council must also consider the social habits of those that live rurally in this area. Many work on the land, beginning their days early and retiring early. Except during the major holiday periods, Tairua is a sleepy little town, with little activity after 9pm. The same is true for Silverstream. This proposal is the complete antithesis of the lived social "world" of Silverstream and rural Coromandel in general.

I would be more favourable to this proposal if it understood the environment, both social and natural in which this "constructed town" will be thrown into. However, the proposal seems to be oblivious. Rather it offers a jarring contradiction.

This is not a simple Bed and Breakfast, or a Retreat. Rather it is an entertainment venue on an "industrial scale".

The Private Road

While the Council is not concerned with the private road running through Silverstream, I am not aware of any mechanisms to be put in place to deal with the disproportionate private road use exposed by the proposal. As owners we pay maintenance on this road based, primarily, on usage. The private road funding, and design has been derived from usage profiles based on private dwellings. It has no consideration for significant business use.

I believe this proposal needs to resolve this issue with all the Lot Owners of Silverstream first and foremost.

Summary

I request the Council to **reject** the submission based on the points above. Note that I have no objections to this submission being presented as supporting documentation.

Sincerely,

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

Col Perks

Silverstream Falls Lot 4 Owner

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