



17 February 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I Trevor Kinred Quirk confirm that I am the solicitor for Clark Casey and the Casey & Sons Farming Trust.

During the months of February, March and April 2022 Mr Casey expressed his concerns with the pressure being put on him by Campbell McMath to sign off the Resource Consent Application for the proposed Brookside Solar Farm.

Mr Casey met with me on several occasions concerned with the proposed application and the serious impact it may have had on his own farm. On each occasion he was concerned by Mr McMath's questions on whether he had signed off his consent.

Yours faithfully

LAYBURN HODGINS LIMITED

TK QUIRK

Director

Email: trevor@layburn.co.nz

9th February 2023

10 Duchess Place

Clarke Casey
Brookeside

Maupuia
Wellington 6022

CANTERBURY

Dear Clarke

KeaX (Campbell McMath) Approach for New Solar Farm

I am writing to confirm my very strong opinion on the unprofessional approach by Campbell McBeth representing his need to gain your approval to establish an extensive solar farm next to your valuable farm property in Brookside.

Over a period of three months (February to April 2022) he approach you and place enormous pressure trying to get you to provide written approval of his proposed solar farm scheme thereby aiding him in securing the very necessary Resource Consent as this new scheme would/ should involve a major District Plan change to the current use of the surrounding farm land.

During this period, I was provided with a copy of KeaX letter dated February 2022 and a draft copy of Boffa Miskell's AEE. After reading this submission I provided you with some questions to ask them considering that the information provided was of such a low level that it totally lacked any critical professional engineering reports (sound, heat, visual etc) to support their claims that such a new solar farm would not cause any visual effect to the neighbouring properties let alone the surrounding farmland. Add to this is the obvious risk to devaluing your farm asset.

During this period there was continuous pressure being placed by Campbell demanding that you support his application. The pressure being placed upon you at this time with all the other critical matters you were dealing with was frankly unprofessional.

It is hard to believe that such a low level application would even be considered by your local Council when all the effects of such a change of use of such valuable high quality farm land. The critical independent engineering reports to confirm that there will be no visual/ financial effects by them accepting such an application is hard to fathom.

Yours sincerely



Jim McArley



To the Selwyn District Council.

9 February 2023

Re: Solar panel development at Brookside, near Leeston.

The Foundation for Arable Research (FAR) has been approached for a technical opinion on the proposed development of a utility scale solar power facility at Brookside near Leeston and its potential impacts on neighbouring arable production.

We will not make any comment on the overall cost-benefit of this proposed land use change, but focus on the impact of an increase in native and other tree plantings at the boundaries of the property and the grazing of pasture species surrounding the solar panels.

In our capacity as a research organization, we have accumulated substantial evidence of bird behavior and management, and in particular the impacts of tree plantings at the boundaries of arable crops on bird populations and crop damage. This evidence includes:

- Introduced farmland birds can reach very high densities in New Zealand.
- Habitat characteristics associated with bird presence on farms are boundary habitat (hedgerows and shelterbelts) and the area of woody vegetation present.
- Bird feeding in wheat can lead to crop losses of 6- 8t/ha in paddock boundaries close to shelterbelts.
- Removal of shelter belts and hedgerows in key areas where birds cause damage to crops reduces perch sites for birds and potentially encourages them to find other places to feed.

International data on other arable crops such as sunflower, an important crop in the local arable rotation, confirm the significant role of trees in increasing crop seed predation by birds in an agricultural landscape. As introduced farmland birds frequently move at a scale beyond individual farm boundaries to access resources, FAR believe it important to consider the probable detrimental impacts of plantings on or at the boundaries of this solar farm on neighbouring arable enterprises.

In addition, international observations from initiatives to increase vegetation plantings and the planting of pasture species for grazing on solar panel farms also suggest a likely increase in weed ingress into surrounding production systems, with movement of pollen increasing as a result of less managed landscapes. FAR believe that considering appropriate management of the pasture species used for grazing is critical to mitigate potential yield loss from increased weed pressure as a result of this development.

In summary, FAR believe a robust review of the unintended consequences outlined above is necessary as part of the consenting process for the utility scale solar power facility at Brookside.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Pitman
General Manager Research & Development

To The Selwyn District Council.

28/11/2022

Dear Sirs,

We write to you in support of our very good hybrid seed farmer, Mr Clarke Casey.

The subject is:- Concern about the planned significant planting of trees around perimeter of a new solar panel farm next to Mr Casey's property, and the consequent effect of increased bird attack on high value seed crops.

Mr Casey has significant and legitimate concerns about this large planting trees around the perimeter of the Solar Farm. There are two main areas of concern:-

Firstly:- It is the likely large increase in the bird population, right next to the valuable seed productions Mr Casey farms. As evidenced by FAR (Foundation for Arable Research) trials, high bird populations can eat 39% of brassica seed crops. This is a legitimate concern which could result in the non-viability of a valuable seed growing future for Mr Casey. We believe this is an absolutely unintended consequence of the tree plantings, but one that must be considered please.

Secondly:- and likely more lethal to any neighboring seed growing operation, is an enclosed area of land behind trees that could grow volunteers (ie brassica plants of the same species as the crop being produced). Such a situation would cause out-cross pollination, with the valuable seed crop, rendering the seed unsalable.

South Pacific Seeds and Mr Casey would like reassurance that:-

- 1) The area of land under and around the panels would be kept closely grazed or otherwise managed in such a way that wild and volunteer plants were simply not allowed to flower at any time in Spring and summer.
- 2) There would be some kind of mitigation of, or compensation for, the increased bird damage to Mr Caseys seed crops, from the new bird populations right next to his property.

Personally, I have seen several Solar farms in different parts of the world and I don't recall any that were surrounded by trees. Rather an open, obvious site of a neat and tidy solar farm was apparent. We note the same situation at our

local new Opuke Hot Pools in Methven where the Solar farm is part of the theme and the attraction.

We hope that these matters can be considered and a solution to Mr Casey's concerns will be implemented.

Kind regards,

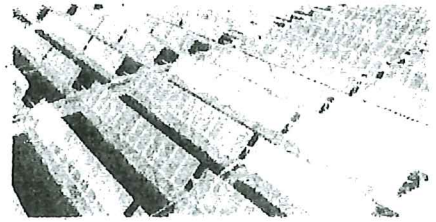
John McKay

Managing Director,

South Pacific Seeds (NZ) Ltd.

Petition against changed land use from rural to industrial (viz. solar farm) at Brookside.

Circulated by Clark Casey, Donna Kewish, and Michael Dalley to affected locals within the Brookside area. The petition will be presented to Selwyn District Council along with written objections by 11th December.



An array of solar panels is proposed for Pitcairn farm (owned by Wards) near the Brookside Substation (corner of Buckleys and Branch Drain Roads) in a "limited notification" to immediate neighbours by KeaX Ltd. This may be followed by other applicants (e.g., Prices) and has the potential exists to desecrate the aesthetics of your rural neighbourhood visually, with noise pollution, with expansion of electrical infrastructure at the substation, and as a source of environmental pollutants especially in the event of a fire. Following a hearing in March 2023, the commissioner ruled **against** a previous application on the grounds it should have been **publicly notified**. Despite this the council has issued another **limited notification** to neighbours. As a member of the **Brookside community**, we ask you to consider:

- whether you are opposed to the solar farm (tick the box if you are opposed), and,
- whether you feel you should have been publicly notified (tick the box for public notification).

Your details will be used to keep you informed of any upcoming public or council meetings.

Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
PATRICK BERRY	260 Dunsandel Brookside Rd. paddyb127@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Stephanie McConnachie	260 Dunsandel Brookside Rd. terrace.end@xtra.co.nz	✓	✓	
Mitchell Thomson	83 Beltons Road mitchelljthomson@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Gemma Harrison	173 dunsandel Brookside Rd. gemwalker137@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Donna Marsh	68 Watsons Rd. donna.marsh091@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Wendy Thomson	83 Beltons Rd wendylthomson2@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Kylie Callender	129a Beltons Rd kylie938@hotmail.com	✓	✓	
Rebecca Coulson	R.m.coulson@hotmail.com	✓	✓	
Athan Jones	E.L.Jones42@gmail.com 129 Beltons Road	✓	✓	
Aleah Harniman	173 dunsandel Brookside rd	✓	✓	
Pittie Barrow	83 BELTONS RD pbarrow2000@yahoo.co.nz	✓	✓	

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Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
Frankie Kewish	29 Irwell - Rekator Rd.	✓	✓	Frankie Kewish
Camy Kygan	15 Stewarts Ln	✓	✓	Camy Kygan
Kate Deas	" "	✓	✓	Kate Deas
B. Williams	190 Boundary Creek Road	✓	✓	B. Williams
Denise Dabinett	190 Boundary Creek Road	✓	✓	Denise Dabinett
Tamara Sykes	93 Boundary Creek Road, Brookside Leeston 7682	✓	✓	Tamara Sykes
Andie Sykes	93 Boundary Creek Road, Brookside Leeston 7682	✓	✓	Andie Sykes
Wendula Keenan	43 Grahams Rd RD 2 Leeston 7682	✓	✓	Wendula Keenan
Josh Scott	183 Brookside Irwell rd	✓	✓	Josh Scott
JOHN SCOTT	183 BROOKSIDE IRWELL ROAD	✓	✓	John Scott
Therese Ridder	313 Brookside Irwell Rd.	✓	✓	Therese Ridder

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Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
Justine Canace	83 Grahams Rd Brookside.	✓	✓	
Anthony Canace	83 Grahams Rd Brookside	✓	✓	
Te Rangi Williams	51 GRAHAMS BROOKSIDE RD	✓	✓	
Lynnda Wooding	Woodinglynnda@hotmail.com	✓	✓	
Bryan Roberts	" "	✓	✓	
D.E. Nelson	15 Tobins Road	✓	✓	
Ron Wilson	wilsonrj@xtra.co.nz	✓	✓	
S Foster	sfoster_7@artlook.com	✓	✓	
A Peary	jacks2011@callplus.net.nz	✓	✓	
Antz Robinson	376 Harman's Rd antzwarrior@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Kylie Robinson	376 Harman's Rd kylie-mcfaul@yahoo.co.nz	✓	✓	

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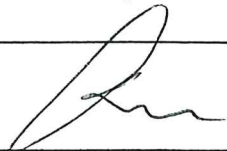

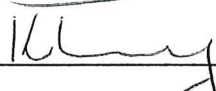



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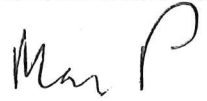




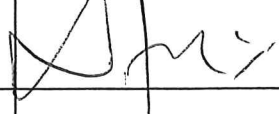
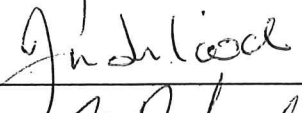




- whether you are opposed to the solar farm (tick the box if you are opposed), and,
- whether you feel you should have been publicly notified (tick the box for public notification).

Your details will be used to keep you informed of any upcoming public or council meetings.

Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
Michael Dalley	56 Buckleys Rd, Brookside RD2 Leeston 7682 hauvered@farmside.co.nz	✓	✓	Michael Dalley
Liam Dalley	Liamdalley85@gmail.com	✓	✓	Liam Dalley
Scarlett Dalley	dalley.s@student.lincoln.school.nz	✓	✓	Scarlett Dalley
Louis Dalley	56 Buckleys Rd, Brookside RD2 Leeston louis.dalley63@gmail.com	✓	✓	Louis Dalley
Edrich Fonteneau	23 Buckley Road Edrich Fonteneau@gmail.com	✓	✓	Edrich Fonteneau
Vivien Wood	80 Buckleys Road RD2 Leeston 7682 woodpeckers8@hotmail.com	✓	✓	Vivien Wood
Donald Barber	448 Brookside and Irwell Road, 2nd Leeston 7682	✓	✓	Donald Barber
Stephen Hammar	448 Brookside Road RD2 Leeston	✓	✓	Stephen Hammar
Alana Hammar	448 Brookside Irwell Rd Leeston 7682	✓	✓	Alana Hammar
Mike Gollan	174 Smythes Rd Leeston	✓	✓	Mike Gollan
Rozanne Kieszowski	29 IRWELL RARATA Road	✓	✓	Rozanne Kieszowski






Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
Cheyenne Weldon	1 Stephens Road Leeston cheyenne.weldon@outlook.com	✓	✓	
Ruth Taylor	" "	✓	✓	R Taylor
Doyle Woods	124 Branch Drain Rd Brookside	✓	✓	D. Woods
Pickyn Casey	265 Branch Drain Road Brookside	✓	✓	Pickyn Casey
Bryan Woods	151 Branch Drain Rd Brookside	✓	✓	BA Woods
Jo Woods	124 Branch Drain Rd d.woods@ruralnet.co.nz	✓	✓	JM Woods
B BOAG	BROOKSIDE	✓	✓	B. Boag
MARK LOWRY	Brookside	✓	✓	
Kim Lowry	Brookside	✓	✓	
Carolyn McMahon	375 Brookside Inwell Rd. Leeston	✓	✓	C McMahon
Terry McMahon	375 Brookside Inwell Rd Leeston	✓	✓	
R Platt	340 Inwell Rd Brookside	✓	✓	R Platt
M.A. LIDDEN	313 BROOKSIDE Inwell Road	✓	✓	M.A. Lidden
M.H. Field	181 Brookside Inwell Rd	✓	✓	M.H. Field
S Klein	Brookside & Inwell Rd	✓	✓	S Klein
Jaime Todd	191 Branch Drain Road	✓	✓	J Todd
Ashlea Todd	191 Branch Drain Road, Brookside	✓	✓	A Todd
Courtney Todd	" "	✓	✓	C Todd

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Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
Simon Robinson	79 Buckleys Road Simon Robinson Whetton hogan.com	✓	✓	
Donna Doss	79 Buckleys Rd. braynerado1208@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Donna Kewish	324 Branch Drain Road donnakewish@gmail.com	✓	✓	
David Kewish	324 Branch drain Rd claway@johnshens.co.uk	✓	✓	
Hayden Price	Ian Hayden Price@gmail.com 313 branch Road	✓	✓	
Helen Miller	helenahaydz@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Dylan Miller DeLann Miller	313 branch drain Road	✓	✓	
Madeleine Hurricks	277 Branch Drain Rd. 7682 pmhurrix@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Peter Hurricks	277 Branch Drain Rd thbranch@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Michael John Hurricks	277 Branch Drain Rd Hurrix@yahoo.com	✓	✓	
Hills Hurricks	277 Branch Drain Rd hillshurricks@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Shawn Horan	99 Branch Drain Rd	✓	✓	
D. Fyfe	"	✓	✓	
Jan Silcock	41 Branch Rd Heeston	✓	✓	
R Silcock	41 Branch Drain Rd	✓	✓	
M.L. Weldon	1 Stephens road	✓	✓	
John Weldon	1 Stephens Road	✓	✓	
Matthews Weldon	1 Stephens Rd	✓	✓	

Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
Anne Green	396 Brookside Irwell	✓	✓	Anne Green
Donald Green	~ ~	✓	✓	Donald Green
Rebecca Foster	1148 Selwyn Lake Rd	✓	✓	Rebecca Foster
Glenn Smith	885 Selwyn Lake	✓	✓	Glenn Smith
Jackie Smith	11	✓	✓	Jackie Smith
Paul Johnson	822 Selwyn - Lake Rd	✓	✓	P. Johnson
Deborah Johnson	822 Buckle Selwyn Lake Road Irwell	✓	✓	Deborah Johnson
Susan McCaul	1024 Selwyn Lake Road	✓	✓	Susan McCaul
Ian Fleming	1026 Selwyn Lake Road	✓	✓	Ian Fleming
Alan Hume	1290 Selwyn Lake Road	✓	✓	Alan Hume
Karen Hume	1277 Selwyn Lake Road	✓	✓	Karen Hume
Caroline Owen	1280 SELWYN LAKE ROAD	✓	✓	Caroline Owen
Annika Dalley	56 Buckleys Road Brookside - Irwell	✓	✓	Annika Dalley
Kentlee Scott	14 Verstappen Drive Springton	✓	✓	Kentlee Scott
Dan Scott	14 Verstappen Drive Springton	✓	✓	Dan Scott
James Case	198 branch drain road	✓	✓	James Case
Greg Orange	485 Brookside & Irwell Rd.	✓	✓	Greg Orange
Al Orange	485 Brookside, Irwell Road	✓	✓	Al Orange

✓

Name	Address & e-mail	I am opposed	It should be publicly notified	Signature
Dominique Schacherer	338 Brookside & Irwell Road dominiquees@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Deb Renney	338 Brookside Rd. & Irwell	✓	✓	
Logan Kerr	338 Brookside & Irwell Rd LoganRiegelKerr@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Emma Schacherer	338 Brookside & Irwell Road @sanders@gmail.com	✓	✓	
Kyle Schacherer	338 Brookside & Irwell Road kyle.schacherer@gmail.com	✓	✓	

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b) whether you feel you should have been publicly notified (tick the box for public notification).

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[illegible]

[illegible]

Website – next2sun.com

– What makes Next2sun's Agri photovoltaics system different to conventional south-facing systems

'The modules in our Next2Sun plant system are stood vertically. Special frameless glass-glass modules are used for this. These bifacial modules are light-sensitive on both sides. The vertical design of the modules with a row space of at least eight metres in between ensures a very low level of overbuilding of the area (ground space / overbuilding of the area approx. 5%). Conversely, more than 90% of the space remains available for agriculture use and environmental upgrades. By comparison, the overbuilding of the area for conventional south-facing systems sits at over 70% (= projected module area on the ground). If the clearance between the lower edge of the modules and the ground is 0.8 to 2 metres, there is no likelihood of any meaningful agriculture use.'

– source www.next2sun.com





**McFadden Ag
Limited**

127 Cryers Road
Southbridge

Phone: 021474604
E-mail:
mcfaddenag@xtra.co.nz

27 February 2024

To whom it may concern,

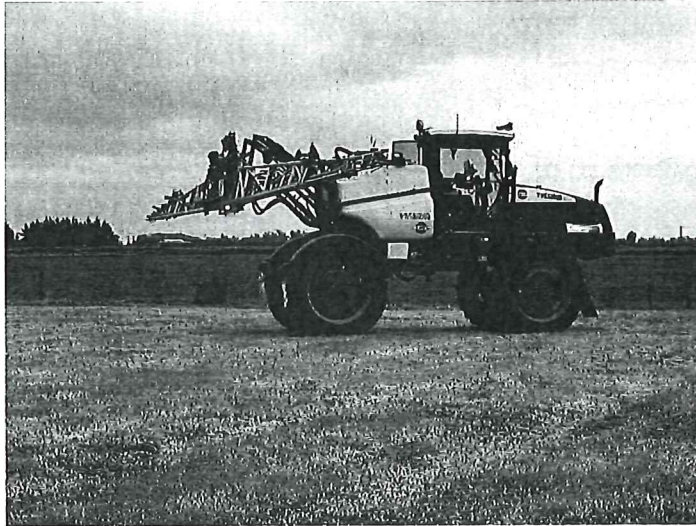
It has been brought to our attention that there is a proposed installation of an extensive solar farm bordering Clark and Liz Casey's farm in Brookside.

We are involved with the application of plant protection products to their crops and have discussed the potential impact a solar farm next door will have on McFadden Ag's work, and the overall production of the farming system.

In my opinion the solar panels will create a significant health and safety hazard due to the glare created by them. The most important factor in the precise application of all plant protection products is visibility. Our high clearance machines mean the operator sits with an eye level of 3.3 metres off the ground and they are very carefully selected to ensure visibility is maintained to our required standard at all times. My big concern is that glare from solar panels can blind drivers which can potentially have serious consequences to people, equipment and crops.

Secondly it raises a significant concern around the timing of plant protection products. Timing of application can be everything, and can mean the difference between a crop being a success or a failure. My concern is that if products cannot be applied safely due to visibility issues, at the correct time this can potentially have a significant financial impact on both the Casey's Farming system, and McFadden Ag.

As you can see from the photos I have added, our machines are large specialist application tools. They are specifically designed to apply plant protection products precisely and in a safe manner. This requires obstacle free fields. As a side note, to crop amongst a solar farm would require a completely different specialist machine to apply products safely. Our machines cost from \$560,000 brand new, so the cost of such a machine to apply products amongst solar farms would be significant, and application time and therefore cost to the grower high.



Hardi Presidio ready to enter Maize



Agrifac Condor IV in 2 metre tall Asparagus

Yours sincerely,

Colin McFadden
Director
McFadden Ag limited

From: Andrew Quigley <andrew@quigleycontracting.co.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 27 February 2024 7:06 am
To: clarkandliz@farmside.co.nz <clarkandliz@farmside.co.nz>
Subject: Re: working in panels

Hi Clark

Following our conversation.

Regarding farming between solar panels.

We have been at contracting and farming for 20 years, we cultivate, plant, harvest silage and grain and bale and transport hay and straw.

Our minimum working width of our silage and cultivation gear is 9 meters. And if working between panels we would need minimum 10 m between panels and at ends of each row we would need a swing in area of 20 m around the outside of the field.

If the above measurements are used, we could harvest and farm crops between solar panels.

Any less and in my opinion it is not farmable. And the only option then is to mulch or graze sheep.

Any further questions please come back to me

Kind Regards,

Andrew Quigley
Managing Director

Phone.03 308 5890 Mobile.027 436
9307

Email.andrew@quigleycontracting.co.nz
Web.quigleycontracting.co.nz



17 February 2023

To whom it may concern

Re: The proposed solar energy farm at Brookside.

Luisetti Seeds is a long-established seed production company based in Rangiora and Ashburton.

We have been growing seed and retailing seed throughout Canterbury, New Zealand, and the world for 90 years.

We wish to oppose the establishment of the proposed solar energy farm at Brookside.

The continual use of productive agricultural land for uses other than agricultural production is not in the best interests of our country as a whole.

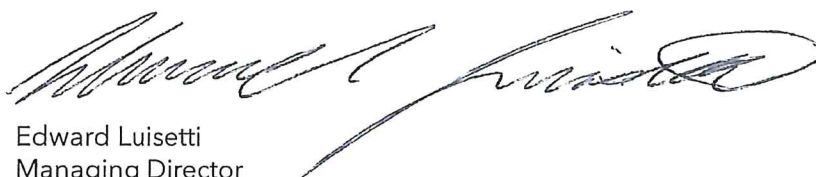
The government has recently come to this conclusion and are now looking to protect productive soils for the sole purpose of agricultural production.

The recent flooding in the North Island will soon act as an illustration as to what happens when agricultural land is taken out of production, there will be food shortages and food price inflation.

The protection of productive soils is in the best interests of all New Zealanders, for generations to come.

I do not have particular concern with solar energy farms per say, in fact on an individual farm basis they work very well, but large solar farms such as what is proposed at Brookside should only be allowed on poor and unproductive soils.

Yours sincerely



Edward Luisetti
Managing Director

LUISETTI SEEDS LIMITED

20 Ashley St, PO Box 77, Rangiora 7440 New Zealand

Phone 03 313 7176 Fax 03 313 7555 Email admin@luisettiseeds.co.nz

GRAIN & SEED MERCHANTS
SINCE 1932



Federated Farmers Stance on Solar Farm:

It has been brought to my attention that some media comments I made in relation to solar farms are being interpreted as support for solar farms, with regard to this current case. To be clear Federated Farmers at this present time DOES NOT have a position around the suitability of solar farms at a Macro scale, or even for individual cases. We have discussed the need that we probably do need to develop a position on this but aside from an initial discussion on the pro's and con's, we have no firm position at this point in time, and very definitely given we have no real knowledge of this case we wouldn't pass judgement on the merits or otherwise of it.

With regard my comments in the media article, the context in which I was making them was in relation to the concerns we have with Carbon farming, in that Solar Farms would be unlikely to pose the same land-use concerns at a macro scale. So I am more relaxed about solar farms in regard to my concerns around carbon forestry at the larger scale.

Notwithstanding I would have concerns on individual basis's for solar farms if they were causing issues for neighbouring properties, and if it was particularly high value arable soil that was being converted.

Regards

Andrew Hoggard

From: Jonny Francis
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2024 11:58 AM
To: clarkandliz@farmside.co.nz
Subject: Quarry land rehabilitation

Hi Clarke

Further to your enquiry regarding rehabilitation of quarry land, I can confirm that post quarrying, our normal practice is to rehabilitate the land to at least the same productive capacity as the land was previously.

On occasion, the land is more productive than it was before the land was quarried.

The rehabilitation process includes returning the original topsoil and can include screening of the soil to remove any stones. It can also involve bringing in additional soil to increase the soil depth.

I thought it easiest to give an example with some pictures.

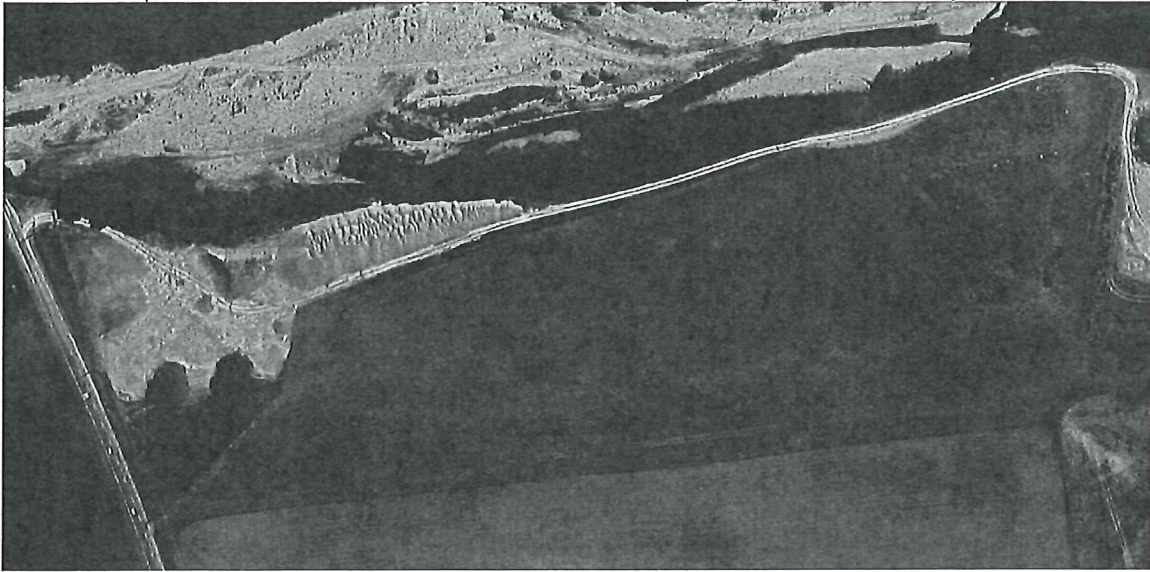
This example is only one of many sites where we have, or are, undertaking a similar process and is in North Otago on Kakanui Valley Road.

This was an area adjacent to the Kauru River which was only capable of growing gorse and broom with very little topsoil. We stripped off the topsoil from this area and after screening the stones etc out of the soil, stored this on site for later use. We then extracted the gravel down about 2 to 3 metres. The extraction was followed by reinstating the screened topsoil. The final result was land (at a lower elevation) that was now usable for the landowner.

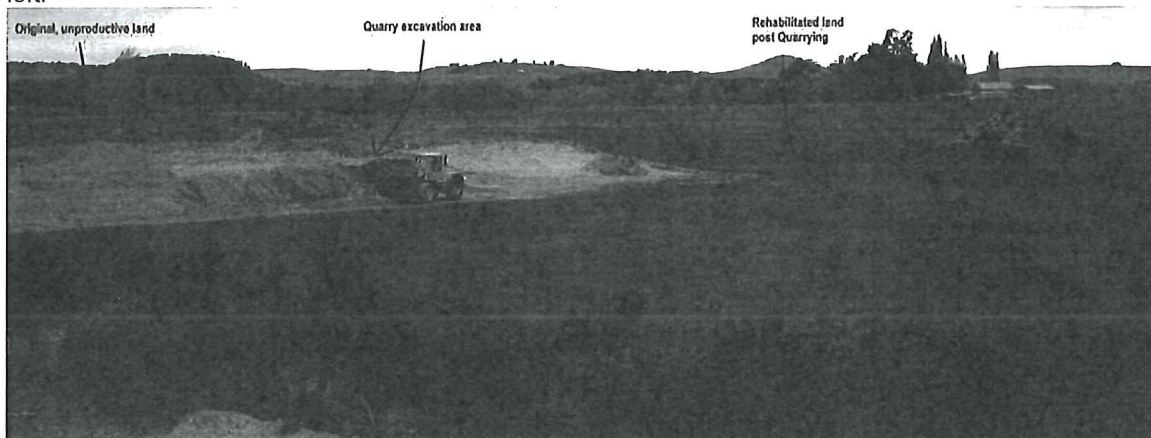
The first picture from Google Earth shows the area in September 2003



The second picture shows the same area in Nov 2023 after quarrying had been completed.



The third picture taken in April 2008 shows the process with the original land in the background to the left.



Regards

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