WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

29 AUG 2002

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28 August 2002

Paula Pickford
Wellington Regional Council
P 0 Box 41
MASTERTON

Dear Ms Pickford

I refer to your letter of 12 June seeking further payment from me for costs incurred during consent processing.

The bulk of these costs relate to consent officer's time of 76.5 hours charged at $60.00 per hour. I regard this as grossly excessive.

Most of the officer's time was spent in writing a very negative and seriously flawed report opposing my application I had pointed out to the officer that the Resource Management Act does not require a consent officer to write a report and that I did not wish to have one, but that if he was determined to write one I asked him to delay it until after my consultants had been able to meet Council engineers and discuss my application with them My requests were ignored. I do not consider it reasonable therefore that I should be expected to pay.

In the light of these facts I consider that not only am I not liable to pay anything, but that your Council owes me a refund of the deposit of $3740 less any legitimate costs incurred such as for advertising and reasonable time required to process my application. I suggest that not more than a day's work should have been required which equates to eight hours at $60/hr amounting to $480.00. This amount together with advertising costs adds to a total of $1082.87, which deducted from the $3740 deposit leaves $2657.13.

Would you please send me a cheque for this amount plus gst.

Yours faithfully

A J Barton