

When replying please quote: 940/15/21/1 RMcNeill

1 August 2007

Chief Executive Officer
Invercargill City Council
101 Esk Street
Invercargill

Dear Richard,

Proposed Awarua Industrial Area

I wish to bring to your attention that the area of land proposed for development as the Awarua Industrial Area has some considerable national and international importance for radio science, space science and radio astronomy.

Without knowing further details, it is not altogether clear that developing the Awarua area for industrial purposes is compatible with the radio and space science that has been already established at Awarua, nor with the radio astronomy work that is gathering momentum there. For instance, the high powered transmissions from the Unwin auroral radar, which lies within the proposed area, has the potential to cause significant difficulties for any proposed nearby facilities. Conversely, radio astronomers value the area for its isolation and radio quiet in other parts of the radio spectrum.

I suggest it would be extremely helpful if Venture Southland were to be involved at an early stage in the proposed development planning, either as a source of assistance to the Council, or as an affected party under Schedule 1 S3 (2) of the Resource Management Act.

I would appreciate your view.

Yours faithfully

Robin McNeill
Enterprise Project Manager