

**SUBMISSION  
ON AN APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENT  
UNDER SECTION 96  
OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**

Office Use  
Only



CONSENT NUMBER:

APPLICANT:

RC2023-0133 & RC240013

Westland Mineral Sands Co. Ltd

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:

Heavy mineral sands mining

LOCATION:

Mananui, Hokitika

**Full name/s**

Gene Barry Wilson & Kirsty Emma Wilson

**Postal address**

**I am the owner/occupier  
(delete one) of the following  
property:**

We are the owners

**Primary contact person/s**

Gene Wilson

**Email address**

**Phone number/s**

Home:

na

Business:


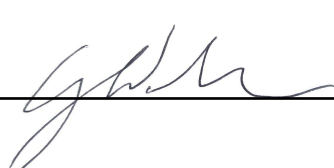
Mobile:

Fax:

**Date:**

01.04.2025

**Signature:**



**Name (BLOCK CAPITALS):**

GENE WILSON & KIRSTY WILSON

*If this is a joint submission by 2 or more individuals, each individual's signature is required.  
A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means.*

I/we wish to submit on the applications lodged with the **West Coast Regional Council**

(tick one)

☐

I/we wish to submit on applications lodged with the **Westland District Council**

☐

I/we wish to submit on applications lodged with **BOTH Councils**

☒

(tick one)

I/we **support** the application

☐

I/we **oppose** the application

☒

I/we **neither support nor oppose** the application

☐

(tick one)

I/we **wish to be heard** in support of my/our submission.

☐

I/we **DO NOT wish to be heard** and hereby make my/our submission in writing only.

☒

If you wish to be heard, and others make a similar submission would you consider making a joint case with them at any hearing

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you indicated you wish to be heard, you will be sent a copy of the S.42A Officer's Report and a copy of the Decision once it is released. These documents will be sent electronically. Only under special circumstances will a hard copy be sent.

☐ Hard (paper) copy

Reasons for a hard copy: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we **have** served a copy of my/our submission on the Applicant as per Section 96(6)(b) of the RMA

☒ Yes

My/our submission is that: (state in summary the nature of your submission. Clearly indicate whether you support or oppose the specific proposal, or wish to have amendments made, giving reasons)

We strongly oppose this application! Proposed amendments to be considered as follows:

1. Mining is not to be within 50m of property boundaries (daytime)
2. Mining is not to be within 100m of property boundaries (night time)
3. If the mining operation causes any issues to neighbouring properties water supplies, that they required to cease operation immediately, until issues have been resolved

I/we seek the following decision from the Local Authority/Authorities:(give precise details)

I would like the local authorities to DECLINE this application on the grounds of adverse effects on neighbouring properties;; the environmental impact it will have and the adverse risk it creates the the area in the event of a natural disaster ie. earthquake, tsunami, sea level rises

I/we have attached additional information/reports to support my/our submission

☒ Yes

### Public information

The information you provide is public information. It is used to help process a resource consent application and assess the impact of an activity on the environment and other people.

Your information is held and administered by the West Coast Regional Council and Westland District Council in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the Privacy Act 1993. This means that your information may be disclosed to other people who request it in accordance with the terms of these Acts. It is therefore important you let us know if your form includes any information you consider should not be disclosed.



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Website [www.westlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.westlanddc.govt.nz)

### **Land Use Consent WCRC: RC-2023-0133**

Mananui is located right on the coast of Westland and is wedged between Tasman Sea and the Mahinapua Creek and does not have great height above sea level.

Westland Mineral Sands Co. Ltd is proposing to remove approximately one thousand tonne of material per day and with operation wanting to run seven days a week and mine this particular area for ten years. That is approximately 3.5 million tonne of material removed from roughly 100 hectares of ground. What does this do to an area that is already only marginally above ground level?

With the proposed mining application and the investment they intend to make on infrastructure/plant etc., a huge concern of ours, as land and property owners adjacent to the possible mine, is expansion. As land owners that have lived in the area for nearly 20 years, we know the ground, its hard-packed sand with a small layer of sandy soil. Once you disturb this ground, you loosen the sand binding and cannot pack it back down as hard as it originally was, and with the removal of some of the proposed minerals this possibility could be even worse.

With predicted sea level rises and the well published risk of an alpine fault earthquake, plus a tsunami risk and liquefaction, the lowering of the ground level and disturbance of the hard-packed sand by this application, seems extremely unwise. But to allow expansion anywhere West of the state highway could be disastrous.

Westland Mineral Sands Co. Ltd will mine the area, remove the material, disturb the hard-packed ground and then leave with their profit. Remaining land-owners will be left to deal with any possible ramifications - which could potentially be significant. If the consent authority grants permission for this application to proceed, we hope they rule out any possibility of expansion and mining anywhere West of the state highway. Any mining in Mananui that involves the removal of large quantities of material and disturbance of the hard-packed sand in our opinion is unwise but allowing it anywhere West of the state highway would be extremely risky to both property and life.

### **Water Permit/Discharge Permit WCRC: RC-2023-0133**

As most residents of Mananui, we rely heavily on our well for stock water and house water when our tanks run empty, which happens every year, and when it's particularly dry like it was this summer (which we have experienced a few times) they are essential. The applicant is proposing to operate a dredge in the water table 24 hours a day 7 days a week, using large quantities of water to sluice material to and from the plant. We have large concerns about both our water quality being affected and the well level itself being affected. One gold mining operation across the road from us adjacent to the applicants proposed mine fowled our well during a dry spell. Fortunately, the mine stopped operating.

### **Land Use Consent WDC: RC240013**

#### *Noise, light and visual aspects of the mine*

We have concerns over noise with the applicant proposing to operate a dredge and plant 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During the day, it's not an issue but at night we only hear

wildlife, cows and the ocean (all of which are natural sounds). We are worried that the noise from the plant and dredge will be an unnatural constant, especially when the dredge is allowed 20 metres from properties.

Noise from the trucks and extra vehicles will not be a welcome addition to the area but we feel the houses by the road and through town will be much more affected than us by this.

The visual aspects of both the plant and the mining area will have a huge negative impact on an area that is stunning, with exceptional views along the Southern Alps, it is a popular place for both tourists and locals to take photos and part of an appealing corridor for travellers arriving and departing Hokitika and Westland.

The light from both the plant and dredge will have a negative impact on an area that has very limited light emission at night. We have been able to see and photograph the aurora on several occasions which generally appears above the proposed location of the mine.

## **Conclusion**

As long-time residents of Mananui, we obviously oppose Westland Mineral Sands Co. Ltd application. There are no positive outcomes for us and other residents of the area, if it goes ahead. Aside from the visual, noise and light negatives, this proposal could see a negative effect on future sales, future subdivision possibilities, a huge effect on our water quality and water levels. But most alarming is the amount of material being removed and ground disturbance which as previously stated, with any future expansion could put the whole area at serious risk from sea level rises, erosion, tsunami and liquefaction.

Thank you & regards

Gene & Kirsty Wilson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The block contains two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is 'Gene' and the signature on the right is 'Kirsty'.