

NIWA
Taihoro Nukurangi

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Received by Connell Wagner Ltd		
11 JAN 2008		
Distribution	copy	rec

9 January 2008

Mr Blair Walter
Connell Wagner Ltd
P.O. Box 1591
Wellington

Dear Blair

This letter is in response to your request for NIWA's opinion on whether the wind resource at a proposed wind farm site at Te Uku could be in the range of 8 - 9 m/s at 80 m above ground, as claimed by WEL Networks.

NIWA hosts the national climate database and the nearest wind station to Te Uku with a long-term data set is at Hamilton Airport. Mean wind speeds at Hamilton Airport are about 3 m/s and many other places in the Waikato basin are likely to have similar or lower mean wind speeds. However, the hills to the west of Hamilton out to the west coast are known to be much windier and the prominent Mt Pirongia almost certainly has pronounced effects on the wind flow.

In view of the position of the Te Uku site on the northern slopes of Mt Pirongia, what is known about the wind climate over the sea west of Te Uku, and the height above ground of the anemometer, we would not be surprised to see measured averaged wind speeds of 8 to 9 m/s at 80 m above ground at Te Uku.

Yours sincerely



Steve Reid

cc

1. Andrew Laing
2. Correspondence File