

Submission on

Resource Consent Application

Form 13

Under Section 96 of the Resource Consent Management Act 1991.



Reference Number:

RCS261346735

Submitted On:

06/08/2026 08:52 p.m.

Person making submission:

Surname

Worsley - on behalf of Te Whānau Worsley, Te Whānau Milner Worsley, Te Whānau Worsley Waitoa, Te Whānau Mohi Worsley, Ngā Whānau Ruru of Matawai Road / Takipū & Trustees of Ruangarehu N, L2, V, M2B Ahu Whenua Trust

First Name(s)

Neta Ruru

Address

Mobile

Other phone

Email

Submission on:

Application No

LR-2026-113441-00, LV-2026-113442-00, LL-2026-113443-00, WS-2026-113444-00

Name of Applicant

Gisborne District Council - Community Lifelines

Type of resource consent applied for

Te Karaka Stopbank Upgrade

Brief description of proposed activity

Re-alignment of stopbank

Position on application

I oppose the application

Clearly state which parts of the application you support or oppose or wish to have amended:

o We do not oppose the building of stopbank protection for the Te Karaka township and surrounding areas. However:

o We OPPOSE planning decisions that have left Takipū without the level of protection afforded elsewhere due to funding restrictions.

o We OPPOSE that Takipū will not experience any of the positive effects accorded within the 'benefit' area as outlined in (6.5)

o We OPPOSE that Takipū is the sacrificial land that will suffer the flow as described in (2.1) i.e. The adjusted stopbank alignment makes more room for the river to flow.

o We OPPOSE that the application no longer recognises the whenua at Takipū as whenua to be protected, despite its recognised cultural significance to Te Whānau a Taupara, and long history as a place of community refuge.

o We OPPOSE the application because it impacts negatively on the wellbeing and safety of our whānau, our whakapapa and our responsibilities as ahi kā and kaitiaki.

o The absence of a flood protection assessment for Takipū is not the result of an absence of need. Rather, it reflects funding constraints that have limited the scope of planning, leaving Takipū

The reason for making my submissions are (briefly describe the reasons for your views):

without the same level of consideration afforded to other parts of the community.

o (6.9) states: The primary purpose of the Consequential Food Risk Assessment is to evaluate the consequential adverse flood effects (disbenefits) of the proposed stopbank for locations outside of its immediate protected 'benefit area'.

o Despite this, at a hui with those of us who live at Takipū, GDC confirmed that assessment of flood protection for Matawai Road near Takipū would not be carried out due to funding restrictions.

o Funding constraints is not a determination that protection is unnecessary. With regard to the Takipū area financial considerations have taken precedence over evaluating the safety, wellbeing and cultural values of the Takipū community.

o Our collective connection to Takipū is founded on whakapapa, ahi kā and kaitiakitanga.

o Our whenua is known as Ruangārehu, the fire pits of our tupuna Mahaki. We are their living embers - the ahi kā - whose enduring presence keeps the fires of whakapapa and belonging alive.

o Flood management decisions affect our whenua and everything that makes us uniquely who we are, and who our mokopuna and those beyond, are destined to be.

o Changes to the natural movement of water diminishes the mauri of whenua which impacts directly on tangata whenua wellbeing.

o Flood protection decisions that leave our whenua vulnerable, will compromise relationships between the whenua, our mokopuna and future generations.

o He oranga whenua, he oranga wairua, he oranga whakapapa

o Takipū Marae has long served the wider community. As an evacuation centre during Cyclone Bola, it was a place of refuge and resilience.

o The loss of this function following Cyclone Gabrielle represents a significant cultural and community loss.

o The consequent proposed relocation of Takipū Marae is a reluctant response to future flood risk.

o Despite relocation of Takipū Marae, our whānau will continue to develop our papakainga nearby.

o We seek to do this with the same level of protection to be given to the Te Karaka township. We are people of Te Karaka too.

o Extreme weather alone does not explain the scale of devastation caused by Cyclone Gabrielle, it was exacerbated by human decisions.

I wish the Gisborne District Council to make the following decision (give details, including nature of any conditions sought):

- o Decades of poor land-use planning, plantation forestry, slash, sedimentation and river engineering significantly increased the damage.
- o When reviewing the Revenue and Financing Policy to develop the 2027–2037 Long Term Plan (LTP), deepen determination of how activities are rated, who receives benefit, and who pays so these decisions are equitable.
- o Within the LTP further develop a flood protection management plan that includes the Takipū area - Ruangārehu, and plan for blending restoration of natural river processes and knowledge of the whenua, alongside engineering solutions.

I wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submission

No

Would you consider presenting a joint case with others who have made a similar submission?

Yes

Confirmation

Are you submitting this form on behalf of another person?

Yes

Name

Neta Ruru Worsley

Postal Address

Mobile

Other phone

Email

I confirm that all the above details are correct.

Yes

