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**From:** Roelf S <roelf@nzg.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 8 March 2017 10:22 a.m.  
**To:** Healthy Rivers  
**Subject:** (Roelf 1/2) Healthy Rivers submission

**Categories:** Multiple Emails to be merged in Discover

Hello,

I would like to give our response to the Healthy Rivers Plan from the view of Gourmet Mokai Ltd.

Gourmet Mokai is operating a 12 ha greenhouse complex near Mokai where we produce hydroponically grown tomatoes and capsicums for export and the local market. Gourmet Mokai employs about 100 people and is a joint venture with Tuaropaki and Hauhungaroa. Both Trusts are Trusts established by Hapu which are part of the Tuwharetoa iwi.

The point I like to address is;

*The definition of commercial vegetable production within the Plan Change does not differentiate between open ground grown and glasshouse/covered grown crops. As the Plan Change currently stands the glasshouses would be captured by the definition and rules. This production would be confined to that area in the future, unless a non-complying consent was gained. We note also that Gourmet Mokai is currently in the process of expanding this growing facility.*

· *The reason for controlling land area for “commercial vegetable production” in general is due to the high contaminant loss risk that open ground grown crops have. This is in contrast to the highly controlled, low risk situation provided within a glasshouse/covered crop situation. Crops grown in greenhouses are grown hydroponically in a gutter system or similar system to collect drain water and nutrients. This drain water is disinfected and re-used as irrigation water. Any nutrient or contaminant losses from such a system can be controlled and modelled as direct inputs (for example where discharges of nutrient is subsequently made to land) through either Overseer or another appropriate contaminant loss model.*

· **Submission: Rule 3.11.5.7**

*The definition of commercially grown vegetables should be refined so as not to include those vegetables grown in glasshouses or otherwise under cover. Such crops should be encouraged as they are a high value land use that pose minimal environmental risk. It is submitted that a permitted activity rule be developed and added to the Plan Change to provide a pathway for such land uses in the future.*

Can you please inform me if this message has gone to the right person?

Kind Regards,

Roelf Schreuder



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