

3 WATERS

“A litany of lies”

The Water Services Entities Bill is now before a Select Committee of Parliament. If passed, that Bill would confiscate local council water assets without fair compensation. We are calling on all Kiwis to send in a submission opposing the Bill. Here are four of the claims being used to justify the law change.

#1 - *“Councils will own the water services entities”*

That claim is plainly absurd when Section 166 of the Water Services Entities Bill states, *“A territorial authority owner...has no right, title, or interest...in the assets, security, debts, or liabilities of a water services entity... and must not receive any equity return, directly or indirectly, from a water services entity.”*

#2 - *“The data shows the case for change is compelling”*

Even experts say the case for change is far from compelling. Castalia has said *“the Reform Scenario is founded on unsound evidence and faulty analysis...the evidence does not establish that the intended benefits will materialise.”*

Farrierswier has said, *“the analysis...should not be relied on to project... pricing outcomes...the forecasts are inherently uncertain.”*

The case for change is based on a questionable model and an accumulation of debt the modellers assume does not need to be repaid.

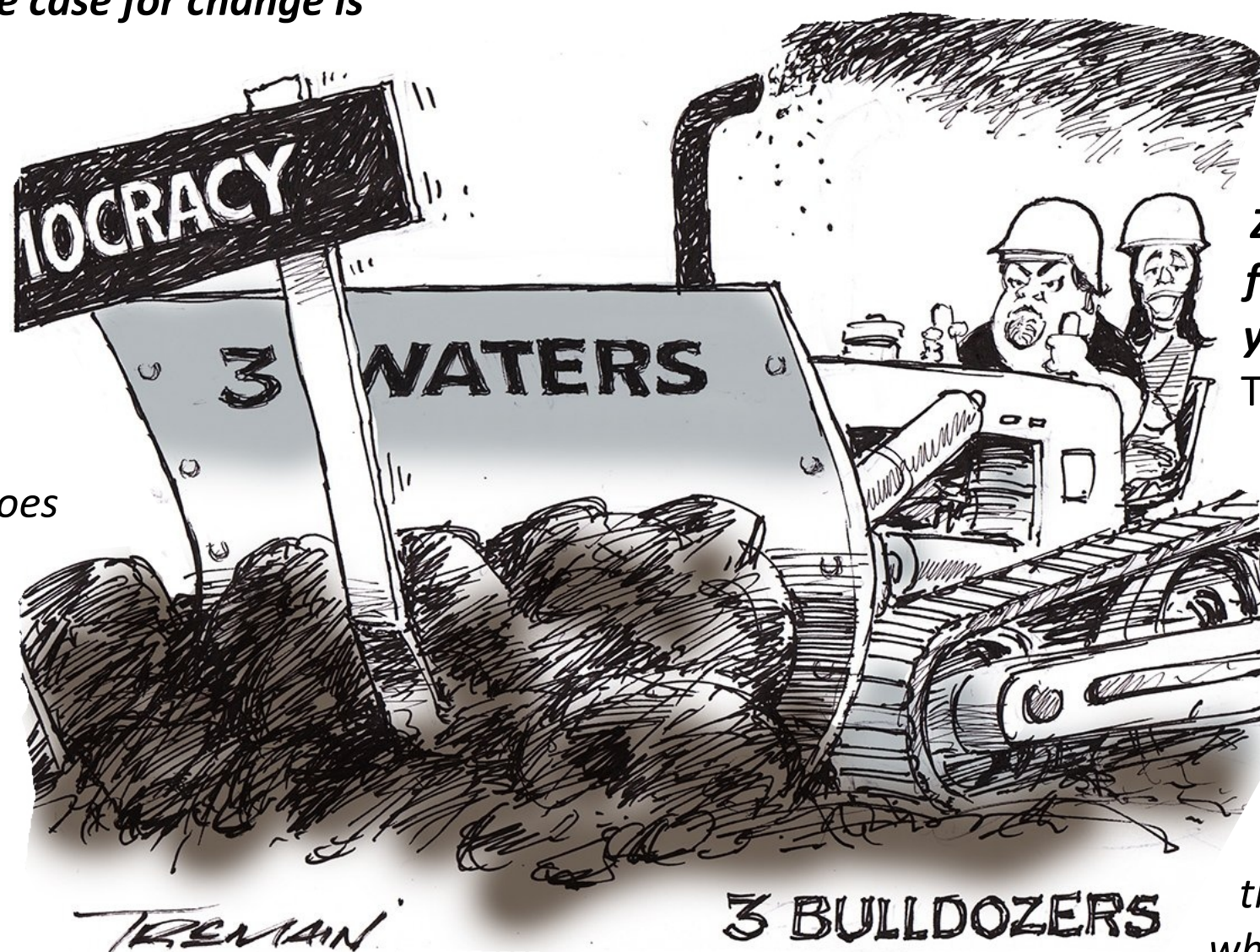
#3 - *“Communities will retain an influence over their Three Waters assets”*

Ratepayers will have little or no influence over the water assets that will be taken from them without fair compensation. Iwi/hapu will have half of the seats around the decision making table of the water Entities and local authorities the other half. This is not democracy. We see this as Jacinda Ardern and Nanaia Mahuta delivering on *He Puapua* and their co-governance agenda.

#4 - *“At least 34,000 New Zealanders become ill from drinking tap water every year”*

The 34,000 figure comes from a 16-year-old report that used British figures to estimate the incidence of waterborne gastro-intestinal disease. It said, in NZ *“the size of most outbreaks is small, averaging nine cases per outbreak in 2000-2004...and is smaller than any other countries for which data are available.”*

Ministry of Health annual water quality audits have shown there is no crisis, as have the regular surveillance reports from the Institute of Environmental Science and Research.



3 BULLDOZERS

Say NO to 3 Waters

More details and a draft submission can be found at www.nzcpr.com/3waters. Submissions must be in by 22 July.