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Interview Information Sheet

Influences on transport policy makers and their attitudes towards peak oil
Masters in Transportation Engineering, University of Canterbury
Rebecca Wardell Ph: 021 630156 Email: rjw160@student.canterbury.ac.nz

Thank you very much for agreeing to participate in the research project "Influences on transport policy makers and their attitudes towards peak oil". Please read the following before completing the interview:

The aims of this project are to understand: (1) how transport policy makers perceive peak oil and their attitudes towards the issue; and (2) transport policy maker's actions and responses towards the possibility of peak oil.

'Peak oil' can be defined as the point in time when the maximum rate of global oil extraction is reached. When peak oil is reached the rate of oil production enters decline and the depletion of existing reserves can no longer be replaced by additions of new flow capacity. Peak oil does not mean oil will run out completely, but that the ability to produce cheap and economically extractable oil on demand would diminish. This could impact transport systems through fuel price increases and fuel shortages. The cost of road construction and maintenance would also be affected as asphalt is a byproduct of refining oil for fuels.

'Transport policy makers' are defined in this research as elected officials (Councillors) and those Council staff involved in transport policy making (technical staff, Council officers, transport planners). The organisations involved in the project are:

This project is being carried out as part of a Masters Thesis (Transportation Engineering) being completed through the University of Canterbury, under the supervision of Dr Andre Dantas. Dr Dantas can be contacted at (03) 364-2238 or andre.dantas@canterbury.ac.nz.

I would also like to invite you to participate in a short online questionnaire in the weeks following the interview. I will explain more about this questionnaire on completion of the interview.

The interview and questionnaire are strictly anonymous, and you will not be identified as a participant. Interviews will be audio-recorded. You have the right to review the transcript and may withdraw your participation, including withdrawal of any information you have provided, until your interview has been added to the others collected. Because it is anonymous, it cannot be retrieved after that.

The results of the project may be published, but you may be assured of the complete anonymity and confidentiality of data gathered in this investigation. To ensure anonymity and confidentiality, names will *not* be recorded as part of the process. All data collected will be stored securely, destroyed on completion of the project, and will not be made available to third parties.

By completing the interview it will be understood that you have consented to participate in the project, and that you consent to publication of the results of the project with the understanding that anonymity will be preserved. This project has been reviewed and approved by the University of Canterbury Human Ethics Committee, as per the attached letter.

Thank you very much for your participation.