

P O Box 173
Alexandra 9340
Central Otago

18th April 2008

Dear Helena

Regarding the application for electoral broadcast funding by the South Island Party, I submit the following points for your consideration.

There has previously been a South Island Party which attracted a measure of electoral support.

That Party's Wikipedia entry describes its support thus:

The party won no seats in 1999, with just 0.14% of the vote or 2,622 votes in total across the whole country. Its highest percentage of the party vote in any seat was 1.5%, although one of their candidates received over 800 votes (2.6% of the votes cast in that electorate).

It is the Party's belief that a sizeable measure of residual support still exists for the cause of South Island self-determination. This is commonly manifested through semi-serious campaigns such as the South Island Independence Movement, the Cut The Cable movement, and a growing youth culture promoting this agenda through social networking websites such as Bebo.

However there are also many people who take the issue very seriously, and it is these people who we anticipate will provide electoral support for the South Island Party.

I would submit that a fair allocation of funding to the South Island Party would be in similar measure to other small Parties with little or no historical Parliamentary representation, or those based around a singular issue for which there has been a degree of public interest. In this regard I would draw a comparison between the South Island Party and such Parties as the New Zealand Democrats for Social Credit, the 99MP Party, the Republican Party, the Aotearoa Legalise Cannabis Party, the One New Zealand Party, the National Front, the Beneficiaries Party, and the Outdoor Recreation Party.

The South Island Party is currently signing members with the goal of achieving registration in time for the election. We envisage that our ability to achieve this will be a determining factor in our securing both electoral broadcast funding, and indeed electoral support.

Yours sincerely

Richard Prosser
Secretary and Convenor
The South Island Party