

Hon Andrew Little

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Hon David Parker

Minister for the Environment



4 November 2022

Kara Puketapu-Dentice
Chair, Project Manager and Trustee
Ngāti Ruapani mai Waikaremoana Negotiating Group

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Tēnā koe,

We acknowledge that Ngāti Ruapani mai Waikaremoana is in Treaty settlement negotiations with the Crown and that elements of those negotiations relate to the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**).

You will be aware that the Government intends to reform the resource management system by replacing the RMA with the Spatial Planning Act (**SPA**) and Natural and Built Environment Act (**NBA**). It is anticipated that the new legislation will be introduced to Parliament in the next few weeks.

Arrangements that are currently being negotiated through Treaty settlements that relate to the RMA will be affected by the reforms. We wish to reiterate the Crown's absolute commitment, in the context of those reforms, to respecting and upholding the integrity, intent and effect of the Treaty settlement arrangements that have been negotiated to date.

To enable this, we have instructed officials to engage with you to discuss and agree how to uphold the arrangements that are proposed for your Treaty settlement, as well as the existing arrangements that arise from the Hawke's Bay Regional Planning Committee Act 2015. We understand these discussions are continuing. Once agreement has been reached with you, the agreed position can be recorded.

Depending on the circumstances of your negotiation, amendments agreed with you could be recorded through a deed to amend. In the event your settlement legislation has been introduced into the House prior to the NBA and SPA being enacted, the necessary amendments could be made through a supplementary order paper. If your settlement legislation passes prior to the enactment of the SPA and NBA, the necessary amendments could be made through an amendment bill.

Te Arawhiti and Te Manatū Mō Te Taiao (Ministry for the Environment) are available to discuss the nature, timing and sequencing of this process with you.

We appreciate your willingness to engage with the Crown on these resource management reform matters.

Ngā mihi

Handwritten signature of Andrew Little in blue ink.

Hon Andrew Little
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Handwritten signature of David Parker in blue ink.

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment