

Introduction

Name:

Ian McLean

Email:

Privacy of natural persons

Business name or organisation (if applicable):

Position title (if applicable):

Associate Professor (environmental science)

Is this an individual submission or on behalf of a group or organisation?

Individual

Please indicate which group you most identify with or are involved in?

Environmental

Please specify the group that you most identify with

Please indicate which type of group your submission represents.

Please specify the group or organisation that your submission is on behalf of.

Vision

Do you agree or disagree with the overall vision for the minerals and petroleum sector in New Zealand?

Disagree

Why?

Our petroleum sector should be progressively shut down. Minerals mining should be environmentally sustainable. Social responsibility implies protecting jobs, and that should not be a priority.

What is your vision for the minerals and petroleum sector in New Zealand?

Environmentally sustainable mining for minerals. No further extraction of petroleum resources.

How can New Zealand sustainably derive value from its petroleum and minerals resources?

By shutting down petroleum extraction. By mining to minimise impact. By extracting most of our needed resources from waste streams from materials that are already available.

Objectives for the minerals and petroleum sector

Objective for a sector that: “Responsibly delivers value for New Zealand (a) Supporting a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy (b) Supporting New Zealand's transition to a carbon neutral economy”.

Agree

Why?

Pretty words, but the devil is in the detail, and this question doesn't even make sense grammatically so is difficult to take a position on.

Objective for a sector that: “Is productive and innovative”.

Disagree

Why?

More pretty words that need better definition for a considered response.

Objective for a sector that: “Is effectively regulated”.

Strongly agree

Why?

Self-regulation has been shown not to work. Our economic system does not enable these companies to operate sustainably, even if they want to.

Are there any other objectives for the minerals and petroleum sector that you would like us to consider in the strategy?

No offshore mining of any sort (including petroleum products). Stop all petroleum prospecting and withdraw prospecting licences already in place.

Guiding principles

Principle: The environment, ecosystems, and biodiversity are respected now and in the long term.

Strongly agree

Why?

Without them, none of us will survive.

Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.

Strongly agree

Why?

Māori cultural interests should not be subservient to the need for a strong emergency response on climate change.

Principle: Support the transition to a carbon neutral economy by 2050.

Disagree

Why?

Target should be 2040.

Principle: The impact on people, communities and regions are managed in a just and inclusive way.

Strongly agree

Why?

Principle: Support a circular economy by meeting resource needs through resource efficiency, recycling and reuse.

Strongly agree

Why?

Waste is a resource that should always be valued above new mining acquisition

Principle: Actions taken within the mineral and petroleum sector should align with the strategic direction of other related sectors and Government strategies.

Disagree

Why?

You imply compromise, which is not available as an option in relation to the global warming crisis.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following principles for the Crown?

Principle: The Crown honours its duty towards Māori as a Treaty partner, adheres to the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and its duty to meet settlement commitments.

Strongly agree

Why?

Principle: The Crown receives a fair financial return for its minerals and petroleum.

Strongly disagree

Why?

This implies that exploitation of minerals and petroleum is both appropriate and expected, and starts the game on the wrong foot. The notion that the crown, or anybody else, "owns" these things misrepresents both their nature and their status as a part of the natural environment.

Principle: The Crown regulates in a way that is fair, transparent, reasonable and proportionate.

Agree

Why?

Support all in the list except "proportionate". Don't know what this means, and it could be defined in many different ways.

Principle: The Crown honours the rights of current permit holders to continue production or exploration activities under existing permits.

Strongly disagree

Why?

This is an emergency. Rules governing business as usual need to be suspended.

Principle: The Crown makes policy decisions based on the best evidence, and accounting for the foreseeable need for minerals and petroleum, both now and for future generations.

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

The crown has not been reliable or trustworthy on these issues in the past, and there is no reason to believe that it will be any better informed or responsible in the future. The crown is constantly compromising environmental responsibility with arguments about economy and jobs.

Principle: The Crown proactively engages and consults with relevant stakeholders and decisions are communicated in a clear and transparent way.

Strongly disagree

Why?

This statement also implies a search for compromise, which is not appropriate in an emergency situation.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following principles for Industry?

Principle: Pursue continuous improvements in health and safety.

Agree

Why?

Principle: Strive to implement industry best practice in operations.

Strongly agree

Why?

Principle: Seek innovative ways to improve the resource efficiency of extraction operations; and minimise the negative impacts of these operations.

Strongly agree

Why?

Decision making should be based on environmental issues, not economic or social.

Principle: Engage with stakeholders and implement management systems to understand and manage impacts, and realise opportunities for redress where needed.

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

A complex topic that cannot be responded to effectively here.

Are there any other principles you would like us to consider in the strategy?

social and economic issues should be subservient to environmental issues. Putting it very simply, we should aim to be genuinely clean and green.

Action areas intro

Action Area: Modernising the Crown Minerals Act

Strongly agree

Why?

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Focus legislation on environmental management

Action Area: Securing affordable resources to meet our minerals and energy needs

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Require recognition and costing of externalised effects.

Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

This is an emergency, and all other issues should be subservient.

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Education about the emergency response.

Action Area: Improving stakeholder and community engagement

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

As above

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Action Area: Improving industry compliance

Strongly agree

Why?

Lobbyists should not be enabled to force compromises on industry compliance (e.g. as Fonterra with farming).

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Action Area: Research and investment in better mining and resource use

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Are there any other action areas you would like us to consider as part of advancing this Strategy?

Other

Are there any other comments you would like to make about the “Minerals and Petroleum Strategy for Aotearoa New Zealand: 2019-2029”?

I would like to see the word "minimize" used more frequently.

If you wish to, attach a document to this submission.

Use and release of information

We intend to upload submissions to our website at www.mbie.govt.nz. Can we include your submission on the website?

Yes

Can we include your name?

Yes

Can we include your email address?

No

Can we include your business name or organisation?

No

Can we include your position title?

Yes

Can we include the group you most identify with (if submitting as an individual)?

Yes

Can we include the group your submission represents (if submitting on behalf of a group or organisation)?

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