

Introduction

Name:

Mark Watson

Email:

Privacy of natural persons

Business name or organisation (if applicable):

Position title (if applicable):

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?

General public

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?

Strongly disagree

Why?

Given the damage that we are still doing to our Earth, there is no future for a petroleum sector. The only option we have to mitigate catastrophic climate change is to stop releasing carbon from oil that was created over millions of years. Likewise, the only environmentally responsible way to extract minerals is at a rate that does not deplete their availability for future generations, and does not add to atmospheric greenhouse gases. Social responsibility also requires us not to jeopardise the ability of future generations to live meaningful lives, ie not destroy the planet.

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

The petroleum sector needs to completely re-invent itself into a truly environmentally sustainable energy sector. Mineral extraction industry should not be export focused: Our minerals are our taonga, and should only be extracted for cultural and local survival needs, and must be done without releasing more greenhouses.

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

The world situation we have created means petroleum and sustainability are mutually exclusive. Mineral extraction will only be sustainable at much less intensive levels than current.

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”.

Strongly agree

Why?

An objective that is focused on the economy rather than the environment is very unlikely to deliver the outcomes that planet Earth desperately needs. "Supporting transition" does not sound like a genuine commitment to be the solution. The objective must include a wide range of environmental aspects, including preservation of the natural environment that we all depend on.

Objective for a sector that: "Is productive and innovative".

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

Innovative is great if it is directed toward genuine sustainability. What is the definition of productive? Does that mean net productive, ie more production than destruction, or does it mean no destruction at all? If it just means more production than destruction, I am against that as an objective.

Objective for a sector that: "Is effectively regulated".

Strongly agree

Why?

The sector has not shown an interest in creating an environment in NZ where future generations will be able to thrive, therefore effective regulation is required to re-direct its focus.

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

Yes. A sector that first and foremost is focused on providing energy and minerals for the people of Aotearoa in a way that does not degrade the environment or the ability of future generations to thrive in this wonderful land."

Guiding principles

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

Strongly agree

Why?

Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.

Strongly agree

Why?

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

Strongly disagree

Why?

30 years away is too late. We need to seriously aim for a carbon neutral economy by 2030

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?

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

This doesn't sound specific enough for me to comment on.

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.

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

The over-riding principle should be sustainability. Until our economic system loses its focus on GDP, economic drivers will remain flawed.

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

Agree

Why?

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

Strongly agree

Why?

There is conclusive worldwide agreement that we are in a climate crisis. This requires urgent action to halt activities that further push the Earth towards major environmental trauma.

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.

Strongly disagree

Why?

"Mineral and petroleum needs" need to be re-defined, according to what our Planet needs

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

Strongly agree

Why?

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

Principle: Pursue continuous improvements in health and safety.

Strongly 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 disagree

Why?

All operations need to be fully assessed for their impact on the climate emergency, and ceased if innovative solutions cannot be adopted that meet the needs of the Earth.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

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

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?

Require all activities to have a net positive benefit to the environment, no net production of greenhouse gases, and net positive benefit to the lives and well being of future generations.

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

Stiongly disagree

Why?

Our "need" first need to be re-assessed in light of the environmental calamity we face.

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

Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership

Strongly agree

Why?

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

Action Area: Improving stakeholder and community engagement

Strongly agree

Why?

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

Action Area: Improving industry compliance

Strongly agree

Why?

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

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

Strongly agree

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”?

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?

No

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)?

If there are any other parts to your submission that you do not want public on the website please note them below:

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