

Introduction

Name:

Matthew Baird

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?

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

I agree with the statement "in an environmentally and socially responsible way", but in order to achieve that goal, we must immediately reduce our fossil fuel industry.

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

A minerals sector that prioritises environmental impact over all else, and favours shifting to a circular economy rather than extracting new materials. It is only by treating our environment with respect that we will continue to have a sustainable future.

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

We need to make a clear distinction between fossil fuels and other materials. Fossil fuels must reduce to zero as quickly as possible due to their impact on climate change. Other materials need to be assessed based on their environmental impact. Rate materials based on their impact and how essential they are to a zero carbon economy.

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".

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

I agree with most of this, however delivering value and productivity should not come at the expense of environmental impact and therefore our future generations.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

Same as above for productivity. Innovation on the other hand can be helpful.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

Effective regulation is required so that the impact of industry on the environment and social frameworks take precedence over corporate profit. We need a rapid phase out of all fossil fuel extraction and processing.

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

Guiding principles

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

Strongly agree

Why?

"Respect" is not enough, we must protect our environment, ecosystems, and biodiversity. This are essential for a sustainable, healthy, and liveable future.

Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.

Strongly agree

Why?

Iwi and hapu must have input into whether materials can be extracted from a region.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

This is essential and ideally should aim for sooner than 2050.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

It is very important that we help communities with a just transition away from fossil fuel industries. This will require government support.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

We need to go beyond lip service here. We need to build a sustainable circular economy that focuses on reuse and recycling. Give this principle its own strategy.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

This sector must comply with the general strategic direction of the government, especially around policies such as the Zero Carbon Bill. The draft strategy is not consistent with the general direction. Business as usual is no longer an option, we must change the way we do things.

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?

Financial return is not the point. The environmental impact must take priority over revenue, as if there is no sustainable liveable future, financial return is meaningless.

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

Agree

Why?

See comments above about regulation.

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

Strongly disagree

Why?

This puts the rights of industry ahead of the transition to zero carbon. It allows renewal and expansion of existing licenses even when there is a ban on new drilling. We should not accept any form of this for fossil fuels; for other resources it should be considered based on their environmental impact.

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 best evidence is that climate change is an existential threat. The 'foreseeable need' for petroleum and other fossil fuels should not be considered, as they need to be phased out immediately.

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

Agree

Why?

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.

Agree

Why?

This is especially important in relation to environmental protection.

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

Agree

Why?

Negative impacts must be minimised. If they can't be minimised, extraction should not be occurring.

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

Agree

Why?

Environmental and social impacts must be monitored, understood, and managed. Where these impacts are too harmful, extraction should not be occurring.

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

Action areas intro

Action Area: Modernising the Crown Minerals Act

Why?

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

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

Why?

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

Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership

Agree

Why?

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

Action Area: Improving stakeholder and community engagement

Agree

Why?

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

Action Area: Improving industry compliance

Strongly agree

Why?

If an operation is destroying our environment, this must stop immediately. Profit should not come before looking after our home.

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

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

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?

Reducing the impact of climate change and protecting our environment in all aspects of industry.

Other

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

Our main focus must be on rapidly phasing out fossil fuel extraction. Permits for extensions and new exploration must stop immediately.

Gas is not a sustainable bridge to a low carbon economy. Its emissions are not much better than coal (60%), and the production and use of gas results in significant methane emissions.

The strategy must set a time-frame for phase-out of fossil fuels. It can begin with uses where there are good substitutes, like electricity generation. Other uses without good substitutes (like steel making) could have longer to phase-out, while clean alternatives are researched and introduced.

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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