

## Introduction

### Name:

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### Email:

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### Business name or organisation (if applicable):

Core Conversations

### Position title (if applicable):

Head of Research

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

Privacy of natural persons

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

### Please specify the group that you most identify with

### Please indicate which type of group your submission represents.

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

Privacy of natural persons

## Vision

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

Strongly disagree

### Why?

It's hard to disagree with such a bland and meaningless vision statement. However, the only way in which the minerals and petroleum sector could be remotely environmentally and socially responsible would be for the extraction of fuel coal and oil to be reduced rapidly. Other fuel components, such as natural gas and LPG may continue to be extracted at a reducing rate as important transitional fuels. Some minerals may become important in a renewables based economy - such as the so-called rare earths and lithium. And we will continue to need concrete, glass, etc.

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

One that puts the effects of CO2 emissions first and foremost. Meaning a sector that will rapidly diminish in size and importance unless it is contributing to a renewables based economy. Off-setting is not a viable answer, genuine deep sequestration of CO2 is an answer, but has not been demonstrated at the necessary scale. Also, every sector appears to be using off-setting instead of genuinely reducing actual emissions. An excuse for business as usual.

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

By developing and promoting those minerals that support renewable energy - such as lithium. Not coal and oil as fuels. Minimal necessary extraction of gas to support transition. Minimal extraction of things such as sand, aggregates, and iron-sand.

### **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?**

Part (a) depends on the definition of responsible. Responsible to shareholders - i.e. maximising extraction and profit. Or responsible to New Zealand inc. for actually lowering our carbon footprint. For part (b), it's hard to see how extraction of fossil fuels can support NZ's transition to a carbon neutral economy. Other minerals may indeed help.

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

Disagree

#### **Why?**

Being productive and innovative is not enough. Innovative, yes, in the pursuit of lowering CO2 emissions. But productive can't be in the sense of ever increasing extraction of fossil fuels or carbon intensive fertiliser production etc.

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

Strongly agree

#### **Why?**

Regulation is critically important in the future and this sector has seen light regulation in the past resulting in environmental damage and low safety standards. It can no longer be permitted to be the 'wild west'.

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

Provisions put in place to prevent regulatory capture.

### **Guiding principles**

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

Strongly agree

#### **Why?**

Yes, a good principle.

**Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.**

Neither agree nor disagree

#### **Why?**

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

Strongly agree

**Why?**

Sounds great. The devil is in the detail. 'Support' in this context could be twisted into an argument for extending the life of the fossil fuels extraction industries. So something more specific about the required drastic reduction in the extraction of fossil fuels instead of the bland 'support' word.

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

Strongly agree

**Why?**

The word 'just' is very slippery in that we do not keep jobs for the sake of jobs. But just in that we support transition to employment in other sectors. This sector is going to necessarily experience disruption and pain.

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

Strongly disagree

**Why?**

Hard to see this as a very principle for what is, essentially, a purely extractive sector. Misappropriation of a very important idea.

**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?**

Well, yes. Patsy principle.

**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.**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

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

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

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

Strongly agree

**Why?**

Yes!

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

Strongly disagree

**Why?**

No, they should be rolled back. They were given out at a time when the climate crisis that we are in was neither understood or accepted.

**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.**

Agree

**Why?**

Agree noting that the best evidence tells that we should not be extracting or using fossil fuels.

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

Agree

**Why?**

Define relevant. Can be captured by vested interests.

**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.**

Agree

**Why?**

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

Agree

**Why?**

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

Agree

**Why?**

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

Responsibility to future generation with respect to a liveable climate.

**Action areas intro**

**Action Area: Modernising the Crown Minerals Act**

Agree

**Why?**

To bring it up to date with climate science.

**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**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

Put our energy and resources into reducing our need for coal, oil, and gas.

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

**Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership**

Neither agree nor disagree

**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?**

It's been a badly behaved sector ever since the de-regulations of the 90s.

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

Transparent and enforced regulations. High penalties for non-compliance.

**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?**

The primary and overriding consideration must be to move NZ towards a low fossil fuel state and low carbon intensity economy. The time frames for this are short. There will be disruption. This is a very pretty and fluffy strategy document that does not address these hard issues for the sector. It needs to!!

**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](http://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?**

Yes

**Can we include your position title?**

Yes

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

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

No

**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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**If there is information in your submission that you wish to remain confidential, please note them below:**

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