

Introduction

Name:

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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?

Disagree

Why?

I have many issues here. New Zealand does not have to be, or attempt to be, a "world leader" in everything we do. We can be world-leaders in kicking the petroleum industry to the curb, yes. Some other countries are much further advanced in recycling minerals from existing products, which is where I see the world going (not to mine virgin material, as that is not available endlessly). I do agree that whatever form mineral and petroleum sector will survive, will have to consider the environment and be responsible socially. That represents differing visions depending on viewpoints though, big businesses think they are socially responsible by employing "some locals to appease the yokels".

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

For the mineral sector to only exist within a purely circular economy, and the petroleum sector to be rapidly phased out of existence. We don't have time anymore to pussyfoot around and wait for 2050 to arrive all too rapidly.

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

It can't when humans keep digging/drilling/fracking for virgin sources. It can if we look seriously into both a circular economy, and reduce our need for the minerals by drastically reducing consumption.

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".

Disagree

Why?

What on earth does a) even mean; to me they sound like buzzwords that can be interpreted so many different ways that the sector-leaders will give a lovely spin to it that means they can continue to mine/drill/etc to their heart's content. b) is not going far enough, by now the climate change/emergency has reached levels that should have woken us all up to see that we need to go carbon negative to counter the decades where carbon has been belched into the atmosphere and been taken out of trees/environment.

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

Disagree

Why?

again, using buzzwords. Fracking was innovative in its time and shown to be highly destructive!

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

Strongly agree

Why?

Good luck finding effective regulators and overseers!

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

Yes, urgently phasing out existing oil exploration and drilling permits, not just stopping new permits.

Guiding principles

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

Strongly agree

Why?

The environment has been polluted, ecosystems are rapidly disappearing, biodiversity has been going down the drain; all due to the greed of humans. It is time we minimise the harm we do to the planet.

Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.

Agree

Why?

Maori have not stepped away from "nature" as much as Pakeha have. We all have the planet on loan from our (grand)children, that cultural aspect is important to me.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

We need to aim higher/better than carbon neutral by 2050; either achieve carbon neutral earlier or aim for New Zealand becoming a carbon sink country.

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

Agree

Why?

So far, this has not happened

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

Strongly agree

Why?

Absolutely, no more mining for virgin minerals/oil.

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?

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.

Agree

Why?

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

Agree

Why?

In a circular economy that is a moot point; when mining virgin minerals, like currently still happens, the crown is currently not fairly rewarded.

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

Agree

Why?

I would expect nothing less from the crown - why is this even a question?

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

Strongly disagree

Why?

If the crown can take away residents' rights to live in New Zealand based on obscure reasoning, then surely the future of New Zealand's environment is reason enough to void existing permits. Same as with water bottling plants that have used gaping loopholes in New Zealand legislation to pay minimal fees for billions of liters of water per year.

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.

Disagree

Why?

"Best evidence" is a matter of perspective. As soon as we have another government, that perspective will change (and not in the environment's favour). Same for "foreseeable need for minerals and petroleum". We can state that with current economic growth-patterns, we will always need to grow our need for virgin minerals and petroleum, but that is totally unsustainable. We have already overstepped the global sustainable threshold, we can't continue on the way we are.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

I am all for communicating in a clear and transparent way, but what is your definition of "relevant stakeholders"? Again a question of viewpoint...

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

Principle: Pursue continuous improvements in health and safety.

Agree

Why?

EVERY industry should pursue improvements in H&S.

Principle: Strive to implement industry best practice in operations.

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

Define "best practice". Fracking is considered best practice to get oil out of difficult wells, but is disastrous for the environment.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

See my answer at "Principle: Strive to implement industry best practice in operations."

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

Agree

Why?

This SHOULD be a standard part of every industry, but appears to have fallen by the wayside in the pursuit of money, somewhere, somehow.

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?

Too many loopholes found by unscrupulous businesses/lawyers.

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

Consider enacting the Waste Minimisation Act in conjunction with modernising the Crown Minerals Act

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

Disagree

Why?

Resources? Is this split in virgin and reused? Affordable for whom? If we are talking monetarily affordable, it is currently unsustainable for the environment.

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

Put heavy emphasis on circular economy; invest in R&D (preferably local, but partnerships overseas if necessary)

Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership

Agree

Why?

Improving partnerships with local, vested interest parties can only be a good thing

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

Action Area: Improving stakeholder and community engagement

Agree

Why?

Serious investment in a circular economy comes easier with local engagement

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

Action Area: Improving industry compliance

Strongly agree

Why?

Duh; lack of oversight/overseeing compliance can lead to huge problems, will also fuel greed and corruption.

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

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

Disagree

Why?

We should step away from mining, not look for better mining practices. Put R&D into alternatives that will fuel a circular economy.

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 can't stress 'CIRCULAR ECONOMY' enough! R&D into sustainable re-use of materials, using local knowledge and engagement.

Phase out the complete Petroleum sector, including existing permits! Retrain their staff for the renewable energy generation industry or any industry actively working towards carbon sink status.

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?

Yes

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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