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Submission on the Draft Minerals Strategy to 2040

INTRODUCTION

1. Please accept this submission on behalf of the Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa Runanga Trust (the Runanga) which refers to the discussion document “A Draft Minerals Strategy for New Zealand to 2040”.
2. When Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa Runanga Trust refers to “iwi” in this submission it means the people of Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa
3. The Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa Runanga Trust is the mandated iwi authority for the Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa people
4. From Te Waiheke o Huka (Huka Falls) to the south, we extend east to our pouwhenua at Ngapuketerua beyond the Rangitaiki River, then northward across the plains of Kaingaroa to Wairapukao and further on to Pekepeke. From here we extend to our northern pouwhenua at Maunga Kakaramea, turning west to the Paeroa Range and on to Orakei Korako on the banks of the Waikato River, the birthplace and principal papakainga of Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa. From Orakei Korako we extend further west to Pohaturua, an ancient pa site. These are the pouwhenua, the geographical marker points that describe the rohe in which Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa is recognised as an iwi with mana whenua
5. Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa is an affiliate to Te Arawa River Iwi Trust which is a Post-Settlement Governance Entity formed in relation to the Ngati Tuwharetoa, Raukawa and Te Arawa River Iwi Act 2010.
6. Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa is also an affiliate to Te Pumautanga Trust which is another Post-Settlement Governance Entity formed in relation to the Affiliate Te Arawa Iwi and Hapu Claims Settlement Act 2008.

SUBMISSION COMMENTS

7. There is no direct reference to Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the aims or actions listed in the discussion document.

Ka ora te iwi – Ka ora te tangata

8. The need to work with Treaty partners is acknowledged in the text of the discussion document but is not reflected in the aims and actions listed in the document.
9. Iwi Maori own or have statutory acknowledgement over land where minerals are located, especially lithium which is predominantly located within the Taupo Volcanic Zone.

NGATI TAHU-NGATI WHAOA POSITION STATEMENT

10. The Runanga opposes the wording of the discussion document in its current form. A change of wording is required to reflect the rights and interests of Iwi Maori in relation to their cultural, social, economic and environmental values.
11. Te Tiriti o Waitangi must be reflected in the aims and actions listed in the discussion document to give the document the appropriate weight Iwi Maori expect as Treaty partners. This reflection should recognise all Iwi regardless of whether Iwi have minerals protocols expressed through their Deeds of Settlement.
12. As landowners and as an Iwi with statutory acknowledgement over the geothermal areas within our rohe, Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa expect further engagement with the Crown regarding the implementation of the minerals strategy prior to implementation.

Naku noa, na



Michelle Phillips
Environment Manager
Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa Runanga Trust