

## Introduction

### Name:

Annette and Michael Hamblett

### 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?

Disagree

### Why?

Putting the environment first and taking account of the serious climate change risks we face has to be a priority this century. The vision doesn't mention our climate and ecological emergency.

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

A responsible sector that puts the environment first and addresses our climate emergency by reducing fossil fuel (including gas) extraction to zero as fast as is possible, and assessing the extraction of other minerals necessary for transition to a zero-carbon economy on their environmental impact.

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

We should be looking at what our petroleum and mineral needs are as we transition to a carbon-free economy. Environmental impacts and our climate and ecological emergency must override financial gain. The economy is a subset of the environment

### 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?

Needs to be an economy that puts environmental impacts and the climate emergency first and quickly transitions to a zero-carbon economy. Climate and environmental protection must take precedence over revenue to the Crown.

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

Disagree

**Why?**

We do not agree with an on going productive sector for fossil fuels. These must be reduced to zero as fast as possible. Other mineral extraction needed to transition to a carbon-zero economy should be carefully assessed for its environmental impact.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

Clearly the sector needs to be effectively regulated. Regulations need to put the environment and climate emergency first. But, a regulatory system that balances impacts across the four capitals is inappropriate in a climate and ecological emergency. The climate emergency and environmental impacts must take precedence over revenue.

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

Reduce fossil fuel extraction to zero as fast as is possible. Assess the extraction of other minerals necessary for transition to a zero-carbon economy on their environmental impact.

**Guiding principles**

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

Strongly disagree

**Why?**

Respected is too weak a word to use in this context. The environment, ecosystems and biodiversity must be protected now and in the long term. Reword principle: The environment, ecosystems, and biodiversity are protected now and in the long term.

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

Agree

**Why?**

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

Disagree

**Why?**

Modelling shows that the combined energy and land-use system needs to deliver zero net anthropogenic emissions well before 2040 in order to arrive at only 1.5°C by 2100. We support aiming for carbon zero by 2040. This reflects the latest science and the need to achieve rapid, substantial reductions in emissions. Reword principle: Support the transition to a carbon zero economy by 2040.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

Hard to disagree but it is not clear what this means. Hard decisions will need to be made as we must reduce fossil fuel extraction as fast as possible. The strategy states only 6,477 people are employed directly by the petroleum and minerals sector. More will be employed indirectly in supporting businesses. What proportion of work is in fossil-fuel industry is not stated. It suggests there are not huge numbers. These people can be assisted to transition to other work.

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

Strongly agree

**Why?**

We support a circular economy. Is this principle just lip service? No mention is made in strategy of steps to take to start the difficult journey to get there. This needs a strategy on its own.

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

Agree

**Why?**

Aligning with the Government's Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill is essential. Hopefully this will be the strong Bill it needs to be to address our climate emergency.

**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?**

The Crown signed the Treaty.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

The Crown should receive a fair return but we do not support continuing to encourage fossil fuel and gas extraction for its revenue without end and without a phase out timeline.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

Fine as long as environmental impacts and our climate emergency are the top considerations. There is no place for proportionate 'balancing' as we face a climate emergency.

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

Strongly disagree

**Why?**

The rights of current permit holders should not have precedence over our need to transition to a carbon-zero economy. This principle would mean existing oil drilling licences can be renewed and expanded, even though there is a ban on new oil mining. We do not accept any form of this principle applying to production of, or exploration for, fossil fuels including gas. For other resources, the decision to honour rights of current permit holders should be dependent on environmental impact and how essential the resource is. Governments sometimes have to make the hard calls. This is one of them.

**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?**

To be added to this, and upfront, should be that decisions are based on environmental impacts, our climate emergency and a fast transition to a zero-carbon economy.

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

Agree

**Why?**

We support this if it means environmental impacts, our climate emergency and a fast transition to a zero-carbon economy remain upfront, and that the Government accepts it will have to make some hard calls to achieve this.

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

**Principle: Pursue continuous improvements in health and safety.**

Agree

**Why?**

Common sense.

**Principle: Strive to implement industry best practice in operations.**

Agree

**Why?**

We support this if best practice includes minimal impact on the environment.

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

Agree

**Why?**

Resource efficiency must not be at the cost of the environment.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

Support but note, mitigation and remedy are not the same as protection. Extractive industries need to accept the majority of New Zealanders are concerned about our climate emergency and environmental impacts. Independent experts, not industry supporters, should be used to engage with stakeholders on proposals so people properly understand the pros and cons of the operation, without omission or spin.

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

Yes. A principle that makes a distinction between the extractions, according to how essential and how destructive the extractions are. The principle would state a given priority to metals like lithium and cobalt that are necessary for transitioning to a zero-carbon economy. Rock aggregate, used for roading and construction, is plentiful and can be mined with low impact. On the other hand, gold mining is environmentally destructive and we already have enough for essential industrial uses. Fossil fuels and gas need to get to zero as fast as possible because they are driving climate change

**Action areas intro**

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

Strongly agree

**Why?**

The Act is out of step with the climate emergency we face.

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

Update the Act to reflect our climate emergency.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

**Why?**

Agree as long as there is a hierarchy of needs that puts environmental impacts and the climate emergency upfront and is part of a policy to implement a circular economy.

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

1. Phase out fossil fuel use as fast as possible. In the strategy set a timeframe that includes: no new coal mines or oil and gas wells; safeguarding essential uses of these fuels such as steel production for as long as possible, rapidly ending uses that can be easily substituted. 2. Phase out gas in the same way as other fossil fuels. Although natural gas emits 50-60% less carbon dioxide than coal, a lot of the methane that ends up in the atmosphere comes from natural gas production and use. It is not a

sustainable option . 3. Development of a circular economy strategy, policy and action plan.

**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?**

Agree as long as our climate emergency and environmental impacts take precedence.

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

**Action Area: Improving industry compliance**

Agree

**Why?**

Compliance is effective where there is regular and frequent independent monitoring and breaches are followed by action, including prosecution.

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

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

Agree

**Why?**

Agree as long as the emphasis is on phasing out fossil fuels and gas, finding substitutes and finding best practice for essential extractions.

**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”?**

The draft strategy supports continued mining and burning of fossil fuels into the future with no end point. These are the drivers of climate change. Yet, there is no exit plan. Business as usual is unacceptable. It condemns our human future and is inconsistent with the Government’s climate change policy, i.e. to achieve zero carbon by 2050 under the Paris Accord, and the latest scientific reports, including the latest IPCC report.

We note a surprising omission in the section on Mining Techniques Practiced in New Zealand (P13). Fracking is not mentioned despite this very destructive technique being used for oil and gas.

We want the strategy to state the need to phase out this technique as fast as possible.

In “The Crown as a regulator” section (P14), it is stated that the Crown “balances across the “four capitals” (natural, human, social and financial) which contribute to

our wellbeing”. In a climate emergency this is inappropriate. The climate emergency and environmental impacts must take precedence over revenue. Revenue from extraction, particularly for fossil fuels needs to be balanced against the costs and risks of climate-related damage. The short-term revenue is not worth the long-term costs.

A May 2017 Ministry for the Environment report estimated the economic cost of the 2012-13 drought to be \$1.5 billion. To quote a 2018 report to Treasury, “climate change attributable extreme rainfall-related floods have cost New Zealand around \$120M in climate change attributable privately insured damages” (over a ten-year period). And “climate change-attributable economic losses associated with droughts have cost New Zealand around \$720M” (over a ten-year period).

**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?**

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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