

TE RUNANGA O NGATI RUANUI TRUST



74 Princes Street
P O Box 594, HAWERA
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11 October 2016

Atkins Holm Majurey Limited

PO Box 1585

Shortland Street

AUCKLAND 1140

Attention: Mike Holm

Kia ora Mike,

We are in receipt of your letter dated 11 October 2016 on behalf of Trans-Tasman Resources Limited (TTR) in respect of our request to extend the time period of submission for the marine consent lodged by TTR to mine for iron sands.

In response, we would make the following comments:

1. Our minutes of the meeting with TTR on the 3rd of September 2015 do not indicate any explicit commitment to undertake a cultural impact assessment. While we acknowledge that a cultural impact assessment and the possibility of assembling cultural impact material was discussed, that was in the context of full disclosure of information by TTR. It has been the standard practice of Ngati Ruanui over a number of years' experience in dealing with oil and mineral companies to require such full disclosure before commenting on cultural impacts. Full disclosure of information is deemed necessary by Ngati Ruanui to enable cultural impact to be fully understood and this approach is now recognised and published by MBIE as part of its best practice operating principles. We note further that you acknowledged our concerns with the process of information exchange in a letter to me as Ngati Ruanui's Chief Executive on the 17th of February 2016.
2. The proposal of commissioning an expert to overview relevant cultural issues was also raised with Ngati Ruanui in your 17th of February 2016 letter. However, this was understood to be on the basis that that there would be further dialog and contact, which did not occur. While draft conditions were forwarded to us, Ngati Ruanui never received the cultural impact assessment commissioned prior to the application being notified.
3. In the course of our engagement, Ngati Ruanui appealed to TTR to understand the compromising situation it was put in with the Taranaki Iwi chair leading discussion on this application. Ngati Ruanui has strong whakapapa links with Taranaki iwi and, as whanaunga

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Iwi, must uphold and prioritise the mana of that relationship. Ngati Ruanui extended good-will beyond all normal best practises to engage with TTR. There were lengthy discussions and suggestions made by Ngati Ruanui on how to proceed in a manner which would leave everyone's mana intact, which the chair of TTR refused to address. This was acknowledged in a discussion I had with you on the 27th of January 2016.

Ngati Ruanui strongly objects to the allegation that it has failed to deliver on an agreed position in respect of the Cultural Impact Assessment. TTR's advisors continued to acknowledge the need to have further discussion and engagement about cultural impacts in the context of meetings and in the context of full disclosure of information.

In my view, the simplistic overview provided in your letter of the 11th of October is not reflective of the many exchanges that have occurred about this matter and clearly purport to depict Ngati Ruanui as not engaging while, to the contrary, engagement was occurring at the highest level between the TTR and Ngati Ruanui.

Our door remains open, but we will continue to insist on full disclosure and being treated with respect and in good faith.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Debbie Ngarewa-Packer
Kaiarataki

Copy To: Environmental Protection Authority