

File ref: EEZ100016

18 July 2018

Mr James Stevenson-Wallace  
General Manager  
Energy and Resources Markets  
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Dear James

**Request for advice under section 56 of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012 regarding the Tamarind Taranaki Limited applications – EEZ1000016**

On 8 March 2018 Tamarind Taranaki Limited (Tamarind) lodged applications for marine consent to undertake sidetrack development drilling within the Tui Field, and for marine discharge consent to discharge offshore processing drainage from deck drains aboard a drilling rig. The Minister for the Environment has appointed a Board of Inquiry (the Board) to hear and determine the applications by Tamarind Taranaki Limited.

A copy of the application can be found on the EPA website - <https://www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/in-progress/tamarind-taranaki-limited/>

The Board has asked me to request the following advice and information from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) under section 56 of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012 (the EEZ Act) to help it understand the implications of current Government policy on Tamarind's applications:

1. Advice on the nature and scope of the Government's stated policy to not issue new exploration permits for future offshore oil and gas exploration; and
2. The effects of that policy, if any, on existing permit holders operating within existing fields and known resources generally; and
3. Advice on the effects of that policy, if any, on the current Tamarind Taranaki Limited application specifically.

Please can this information be provided to the EPA by **10 August 2018**. The information will be made available on the EPA website and provided to other parties.

The Board also requests that MBIE make available a witness(s) to attend the hearing, if required, to answer questions on any information provided in response to this request. At this stage the hearing is likely to commence in mid-November 2018. Further details about the hearing will be provided to you if MBIE are requested to appear at the hearing.

If you have any questions or further queries please don't hesitate to contact the Project Leader, Amy Selvaraj on 021 676 494 or via email [amy.selvaraj@epa.govt.nz](mailto:amy.selvaraj@epa.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Johnson', with a light blue circular stamp or watermark behind it.

Richard Johnson

Manager EEZ Applications  
**Climate, Land & Oceans**