

IN THE MATTER of the Resource
Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of the Proposed National
Policy Statement for
Freshwater Management

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF TIMOTHY TUIHU MANUKAU

INTRODUCTION

1. My name is Timothy Tuihu Manukau. I hold the position of Environmental Manager of the Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui Inc. I have a Bachelors Degree in Biological and Ecological Science and a Diploma in Environmental Management. I have over 11 years experience in Resource Management and Iwi Environmental issues. I was raised at Waahi Pa on the banks of the Waikato River. I am of Waikato-Tainui descent.
2. I will give evidence on behalf of Waikato-Tainui that will address our position on the proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. With respect to the proposed NPS for Freshwater Management, Waikato-Tainui seeks the implementation of the following recommendations:
 - 3.1 Where the proposed NPS influences freshwater management matters within the Waikato River catchment; there should be a clear provision within the proposed NPS that states:
 - (a) *"The NPS for Freshwater Management shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Vision and Strategy; and best furthers the overarching purpose for the Waikato River."*

3.2 The following objective to be included in the proposed NPS so as to ensure the wellbeing of waterways is being met, so as to meet the wellbeing of people and communities:

(a) *"The health and wellbeing of freshwater waterways be protected and enhanced for future generations"*

3.3 The following Waikato-Tainui objectives are reflected in the future implementation of the proposed NPS, as and when they relate to the Waikato River and activities in its catchment:

- a the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River;
- b the restoration and protection of the relationship of Waikato-Tainui with the Waikato River, including their economic, social, cultural, and spiritual relationships;
- c the integrated, holistic and co-ordinated approach to management of the natural, physical, cultural and historic resources of the Waikato River;
- d the adoption of a precautionary approach towards decisions that may result in significant adverse effects on the Waikato River, and in particular those effects that threaten serious or irreversible damage to the River;
- e the recognition and avoidance of adverse cumulative effects, and potential cumulative effects, of activities undertaken both on the Waikato River and within its catchments on the health and wellbeing of the River;
- f the recognition that the Waikato River is degraded and should not be required to absorb further degradation as a result of human activities;
- g the protection and enhancement of significant sites, fisheries, flora and fauna; and
- h the application to the above of both maatauranga Maaori and latest available scientific methods.

3.4 The proposed NPS objectives and policies should include processes to enable effective early engagement with tangata whenua and their participation in management and decision making in and around Freshwater Management which may include but ^{not} limited to co-management and the sharing of authority.

3.5 The best available information for decision-making processes should include a robust analysis of Maaori values and value methods by tangata whenua; and must include Waikato-Tainui cultural methods when concerning waterways within the Waikato-Tainui tribal area.

3.6 That maatauranga maaori be utilised in identifying, assessing and supporting all Freshwater Management matters within the proposed NPS through the modification of Objective 8 to read:

- (a) To ensure that iwi and hapū are involved (including their matauranga maori), and Tangata Whenua Values and Interests are identified and reflected, in the management of Freshwater Resources including the matters specified in Objectives 1–7.

3.7 Waikato-Tainui have had input, through discussions between Maori advisors and Crown officials, in certain provisions that are now contained in the proposed NPS. In this regard a number of specific changes were made to an earlier draft of the proposed NPS. Waikato-Tainui recommends that those changes are maintained in any final NPS. Those specific additions and insertions and one deletion were as follows:

- (a) Maintain the inclusion of the words "including the involvement of iwi and hapu" to paragraph five of the Preamble to the proposed NPS.

The Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) is the underlying foundation of the Crown–Māori relationship with regard to Fresh Water Resources. This proposed National Policy Statement is one step in the process of addressing tangata whenua values and interests *including the involvement of iwi and hapu* in the management of fresh water. Additionally, the proposed National Policy Statement is a non-exhaustive step towards progressive strategies at the national and regional level in order to meet shared objectives in respect of the fresh water resources of New Zealand.

- (b) Maintain the inclusion of the words "or exceed" in Objective 3.

To ensure the progressive enhancement of the overall quality of Fresh Water Resources, including actions to ensure appropriate Fresh Water Resources can reach *or exceed* a swimmable standard.

- (c) Maintain the inclusion of the word "**biophysical**" in Objective 6(b).

the need to provide for resilience against the *biophysical* effects of climate change (such as through infrastructure for supply, storage and distribution of fresh water); and

- (d) Maintain the inclusion of the words "**including the matters specified in Objectives 1-7**" in Objective 8.

To ensure that iwi and hapu are involved, and Tangata Whenua Values and Interests are identified and reflected, in the management of Fresh Water Resources *including the matters specified in Objectives 1-7*.

- (e) Maintain the deletion of the words "**(including electricity generation)**" in Policy 4(d) to be continued to be read as it is proposed.

The contribution of existing and potential uses of Fresh Water Resources and of existing economic investment to regional and national social, economic and cultural wellbeing;

- (f) Maintain the inclusion of the words "**unless inappropriate**" in Policy 6.

Without limiting policies 1 to 3, this National Policy Statement will be achieved also through the inclusion, *unless inappropriate*, of conditions on any relevant resource consents granted and recommendations on designations confirmed in respect of the following:

T Manukau