

15
14 April 2009

Board of Inquiry
Freepost Board of Inquiry – Fresh Water
C/- PO Box 10362
Wellington 6143

Tēna koe

NGĀTI AWA FURTHER SUBMISSION TO THE PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT

Thank you for providing additional time for the preparation of further submissions on the proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa makes this further submission in support of its first submission to the proposed policy statement.

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa makes comment on the following points made in submissions by Environment Bay of Plenty.

Environment Bay of Plenty Submissions

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa **supports** the following submission points made by Environment Bay of Plenty:

Submission Points 9 and 10 of the Environment Bay of Plenty Submission – Protection of Wetlands

Explanation

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa wishes to add that due to the preserving qualities of wetlands, they were often used as repositories for ancient wooden carvings.

Te Kohika Pa at Matata is one example of a wetland system preserving ancient wooden artefacts. Any changes to the hydrology in that wetland will cause the destruction of those wooden artefacts.

Water hydrology is an important factor in achieving preservation of such artefacts. This should be taken into account in policy development.

Submission Points 29 to 35, 41 and 42 of the Environment Bay of Plenty Submission – Objective 8 & Tangata Whenua Values and Interests

Explanation

The submissions indicate awareness of the issues facing Maori, particularly iwi authorities, who seek to be engaged in the decision-making process relevant to the abstraction of water.

The Environment Bay of Plenty recommendation that 'central government should develop policies and funding methods to support the capacity and capability of tangata whenua to participate in freshwater management' is supported, provided tangata whenua, in particular iwi authorities, are fully engaged in the development of such policy and funding frameworks.

Submission Point 43 of the Environment Bay of Plenty Submission – Discharge of Contaminants

Explanation

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa supports the submission made by Environment Bay of Plenty.

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa agrees that 'policy should be amended to provide direction and, more importantly, financial funding and incentives so that the issues from past practices can be effectively addressed'.

There are several examples where issues of past practices have adversely affected freshwater resources in the Bay of Plenty region. Rotorua lakes, Tarawera River, Rangitaiki River, Whakatane River and the Kopeopeo and Orini Canals are all freshwater bodies that have been adversely affected by discharges of contaminant material or electricity generators. While some progress is being made in the reduction of adverse effects, there is no compulsion on the part of industry (in particular) to contribute to the restoration of waterways that have, in the past, been the receiving environment of waste water and contaminants discharged by those industries and local authorities.

Installing policy that provides for industry (in particular) to contribute to the restoration of important freshwater tributaries, on which they rely, is too important an opportunity to miss when preparing a national policy statement for freshwater management. Installation of such policy can provide industry with incentives to contribute to the restoration of such water bodies.

Submission Point 55 of the Environment Bay of Plenty Submission – Additional Guidance

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa supports Submission point 55 in the Environment Bay of Plenty Submission.

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa seeks to be engaged in any discussions held with Environment Bay of Plenty on matters relevant to the submissions points listed above on the basis of statutory acknowledgements held by Ngati Awa in respect to our relationships with various freshwater resources in the Bay of Plenty region.

Concluding Remarks

Te Runanga o Ngati Awa strongly supports its initial submission to the Proposed National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (copy attached).

Please direct any enquiries about this further submission to Beverley Hughes, manager Environment Ngati Awa, in the first instance.

Please note that Te Runanga o Ngati Awa wishes to be heard at any hearing held for the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management.

Kia ora

Beverley Hughes
MANAGER
for Chief Executive

Copy to:

Attention: Strategic Policy Committee

Environment Bay of Plenty
PO Box 364
Whakatane

Attention: Roku Mihinui and Hera Smith
Te Arawa Lakes Trust
PO Box 128
Rotorua

