

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Water Consultation Submissions](#)  
**Subject:** The subject of ownership and control of fresh water.  
**Date:** Friday, 15 April 2016 4:18:33 p.m.

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Dear Sirs,

I write to express my dismay to learn that the government has been in secret negotiations with Maori for approximately three years over the claim by Maori for special rights as to the ownership and control of fresh water. The government has previously stated that nobody owns fresh water. To learn that the government is discussing in private with IWI the control and ownership is deceit.

Is this to be another piece of race biased legislation. This only adds to the plethora of divisive legislation that already exists.

The idea that one minority section of citizens should exercise control over resources should be resisted for the good of all New Zealand citizens. No where can I see any such reference by any sage that the Treaty gives such a right.

Brian Axtell,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]