



12 October 2011

Submission to the MfE on "Measuring Up" Environmental Reporting –A Discussion Document.

Te Arawa River Iwi trustees (TARIT).

PO Box 67, Rotorua 3040

Introduction

This submission is from Te Arawa River Iwi Trustees (TARIT), who represents the three Te

Arawa River Iwi with mana whenua along the Waikato River and in its catchment: Ngati Tahu-Ngati

Whaoa, Tuhourangi Ngati Wahiao, and Ngati Kearoa Ngati Tuara (collectively "Te Arawa

River Iwi").

Who are we?

The three Te Arawa River iwi hold mana whenua along the Upper Waikato river, and extending

northwards, as follows:

➤ Ngati Tahu-Ngati Whaoa, whose rohe lies between Te Waiheke o Huka (Huka Falls) and Pohaturoa (at Atiamuri) and extends to the Kaingaroa Plains. Despite public works takings and land loss, they have retained lands along the river.

➤ Tuhourangi Ngati Wahiao, whose lands include the Rotomahana Parekarangi



block and the important Whirinaki Stream.

- Ngati Kearoa Ngati Tuara, whose traditional rohe falls partly within the Waikato

River catchment, particularly around Horohoro. Their principal waterway, the Pokaitu Stream, runs into the Waikato River

just north of Pohaturoa.

Submission Points

The Iwi support the bill in principle because it streamlines the process; bring in uniformity and independence of the reporting entity from the users. Consolidating data collection and reporting to PCE will bring professional expertise and hopefully independent and efficient data collection process and analysis that can inform the how the nation is performing. Compelling local authorities to standardize their on reporting systems will also create a comparative scale upon which people can compare performance of local authorities on the environment across the country.

We wish to be involved in the development of this policy in the future.

Points of clarification:

Involve Tangata Whenua in the development of environmental indicator and monitoring

It is not clear how PCE will source its data from. Is it going to set up its own data collection system or rely on local authorities to feed it?

PCE must have a strong Maori Unit to ensure matauranga Maori is incorporated into data collection, analysis and reporting.

Will PCE create its own primary data or rely on secondary data and do desk top analysis for the report?

If PCE is going to rely on the local authorities data, how does that differ from the current MfE reporting system?

If Locals authorities are going to continue producing their own mini reports as before, doesn't that create confusion as to which report has more authority than the other?

Rather than creating regulation under Sec 360 RMA, is it not better just producing National Environmental Standards instead?

The bill must provide guidelines to PCE on data gathering methodologies and analysis which should include matauranga Maori.