[FTAA-2512-1153] CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN BLOCK MINING PROJECT
DECISION APPENDIX 3: FINAL CONDITIONS – ARCHAEOLOGICAL AUTHORITY

Archaeological Authority

Authority details

Authority Number: **2026-587**
Determination Date: **Duration:** 35 years
Authority Holder: Taharoa Ironsands Limited
Archaeological Sites: R16/52, R16/58, R16/61, R16/88, R16/89, R16/117, R16/150, R16/151, R16/155, R16/327, and R16/572; and other unrecorded sites
Location: Central and Southern Blocks located at Taharoa C Block, Taharoa Road, Taharoa
S45 Approved Person: Glen Farley
Landowner Consent: Landowner consent has been provided to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) to satisfy clause 6(1) of Schedule 8 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Determination

The FTAA Expert Consenting Panel grants an archaeological authority pursuant to section 81 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 and section 48 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 in respect of the archaeological sites described above within the areas specified in the location above, to Taharoa Ironsands Limited for ironsand extraction across the Central and Southern Blocks of the Taharoa Ironsands Mine including land preparations, vegetation clearance, construction of various ponds, and mining operations (archaeological works), subject to the following conditions:

CONDITIONS OF AUTHORITY

No.	Condition
Before Works	
1	**Start Work Notification** Prior to the commencement of any work that may impact upon sites R16/52, R16/58, R16/61, R16/88, R16/89, R16/117, R16/150, R16/151, R16/155, R16/327, and R16/572, the approval holder must ensure that HNZPT and at least one of the nominated kaumātua representatives is advised of the date when work will begin. This advice must be provided at least 2 working days before work starts.
2	**Archaeological Management Plan** The authority must be exercised in accordance with the Archaeological Management Plan (Farley, G. 2025 Archaeological Management Plan: Taharoa Ironsands Mine Central and Southern Blocks, prepared for Taharoa Ironsands Limited) (AMP) dated October 2025 as amended by Appendix 1.

	The Authority Holder may update the AMP by submitting any amendments in writing to HNZPT for its written approval.
3	**Site Briefing** The Authority Holder must ensure that all personnel undertaking works in the vicinity of sites R16/52, R16/58, R16/61, R16/88, R16/89, R16/117, R16/150, R16/151, R16/155, R16/327, and R16/572 are briefed on site by the section 45 Approved Person (who may appoint a person to carry out the briefing on their behalf) prior to any bulk earthworks commencing which have the possibility of encountering archaeological evidence relating to those sites. The briefing shall include how to identify possible archaeological sites during works, the archaeological work required by the conditions of this approval, and operators' responsibilities with regard to notification of the discovery of archaeological evidence to ensure that the approval conditions are complied with.
During Works	
4	**Monitoring** Any earthworks that may affect sites R16/52, R16/58, R16/61, R16/88, R16/89, R16/117, R16/150, R16/151, R16/155, R16/327, and R16/572 must be monitored by the section 45 Approved Person (who may appoint a person to carry out monitoring on their behalf)
5	**Kōiwi Discovery** If any kōiwi (human remains) are encountered, all works must cease within 10 metres of the discovery. HNZPT, New Zealand Police, and at least one of the nominated kaumātua representatives must be advised immediately. Any steps following must be undertaken in accordance with Guidelines for Kōiwi Tangata/Human Remains (AGS8 2014) and no further work in the area may take place until future actions have been agreed by all parties. Access for the nominated kaumātua representatives shall be enabled in order to undertake tikanga (provided this access is consistent with any site safety requirements), including in accordance with Taharoa Mine Site Health and Safety – Environmental Procedure: Discovery of Human Remains and/or Items of Cultural Significance (TIL, April 2026).
6	**Discovery Protocol** Following the discovery of any archaeological materials, and in addition to any tikanga agreed to between the Authority Holder and the nominated kaumātua representatives, the following shall apply:

	• At least one of the nominated kaumātua representatives shall be informed if any possible taonga or Māori artefacts are identified to enable appropriate tikanga to be undertaken, so long as all statutory requirements under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 and the Protected Objects Act 1975 are met; and • The nominated kaumātua representatives who attend a discovery shall be provided with a copy of any reports completed as a result of the archaeological work associated with this authority and be given an opportunity to discuss it with the section 45 Approved Person if required.
7	**Investigation** Any archaeological evidence encountered during the exercise of this authority must be investigated, recorded and analysed in accordance with accepted archaeological practice and the procedures in the AMP. HNZPT and at least one of the nominated kaumātua representatives must be notified of any investigation at least 48 hours prior to the investigation occurring.
8	**Annual Reporting** From the date of issue of this authority, the Authority Holder must submit an annual written report containing a summary of the progress of the activity and any archaeological findings to HNZPT and the nominated kaumātua representatives.
After Works	
9	**Work Completion Notification** The Authority Holder must ensure that HNZPT and at least one of the nominated kaumātua representatives are advised of the completion of the on-site archaeological work, within 5 working days of completion.
10	**Completion of Archaeological Siteworks** Within 20 working days of the completion of the on-site archaeological work associated with this approval, the Authority Holder shall ensure that: • An interim report following the Archaeological Report Guideline (AGS12 2023) is submitted to HNZPT for inclusion in the HNZPT Archaeological Reports Digital Library; and • Site record forms are updated or submitted to the NZAA Site Recording Scheme.
11	**Archaeological Records** Within 12 months of the completion of the on-site archaeological work, the Authority Holder shall ensure that a final report, completed to the satisfaction of HNZPT following the Archaeological Report Guideline (AGS12 2023), is submitted to HNZPT for inclusion

	in the HNZPT Taonga Archaeological Reports Digital Library. Digital copies of the final report must also be sent to the NZAA Central File keeper and the nominated kaumātua representatives.

APPENDIX 1

This decision requires the following amendments to the Archaeological Management Plan referred to in Condition 2 and in the findings of the archaeological assessment in relation to the identification and protection of urupaa and waahi tapu sites:

Maori Cultural Values page 2, 2nd paragraph:
Contact details for representatives of iwi that have an interest in the sites within the project area are provided in this document, as are protocols that must be adhered to if archaeological materials of Māori origin are exposed. In carrying out the requirements of the Authority the Archaeologists will be guided by the nominated kaumātua.

The kaumātua are to be nominated in accordance with tikanga by the Proprietors of Taharoa C Block Incorporated (2 kaumātua), Te Ruunanga o Ngaati Mahuta ki te Hauaauru, Te Kooraha Marae and Aaruka Marae (2 kaumātua) plus 1 further kaumātua to be nominated jointly by the nominators, making five kaumātua in total (**nominated kaumātua**) to ensure balanced representation of customary kaitiaki authority and landowner interests.
Contact details for all kaumātua representatives are to be included in this Management Plan, and updated when necessary.

General Requirements Page 4, amend and add to as follows:

2. Prior to the start of land disturbance within 50m of sites R16/58, R16/61, R16/88, R16/117, R16/150, R16/151, R16/155, R16/572 and the urupā and other wāhi tapu sites shown on Figure 1 of this AMP the Project Archaeologist together with a nominated kaumātua will be called to meet the personnel undertaking works on site to brief them on the archaeological and cultural requirements.

2A. Prior to the start of land disturbance within 50m of any urupā or other wāhi tapu sites shown on Figure 1 of this AMP the mine operator shall ensure that the relevant site(s) including the 20m buffer is appropriately fenced and signed to alert all site personnel of the location and significance of the site. The Project Archaeologist shall advise the nominated kaumātua and Heritage NZ that such fencing and signage is in place.

2B. Prior to the start of land disturbance within 50m of sites R16/58, R16/61, R16/88, R16/117, R16/150, R16/151, R16/155, R16/572 and the urupā and other wāhi tapu sites shown on Figure 1 of this AMP, the Project Archaeologist shall advise The Proprietors of Taharoa C Block Incorporated and Te Kooraha Marae and Aaruka Marae of the proposed start. This advice must be provided at least 2 working days before work starts.

Contact Details page 7

The Contact Details are to state the nominated kaumātua.

Taharoa Mine Site Health & Safety – Environmental Procedure: Discovery of Human Remains and/or Items of Cultural Significance

1. SCOPE

This document serves to describe the procedure to follow in the event of discovering human remains and / or items of cultural significance on any company property or leasehold land.

2. POLICY

2.1 In the Event of Human Remains or Item of Cultural Significance being Discovered

It should not be touched.

On no account shall the area around the discovery be disturbed. The area immediately surrounding the discovery will be cordoned off with cones and tape.

3. PROCEDURE

a) Cease all works immediately within 10 metres of the discovery.

b) Immediately report the findings to the Mine Manager or in his absence, his designate, verbally or by phone.

c) The Mine Manager or his designate shall inspect the site and locality to determine the nature of the finding. The Mine Manager shall immediately inform one of the nominated kaumātua specified in the certified Archaeological Management Plan, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT), and the NZ Police at Kawhia, in the case of the discovery of bones. Photographic images of the discovery will be sent to NZ Police in the first instance.

After liaising with their advisors, the NZ Police will notify the Mine Manager whether the remains are human or of cultural significance and will determine whether other offsite personnel shall be notified and/or requested to attend an inspection.

Any steps following must be undertaken in accordance with Guidelines for Kōiwi Tangata/Human Remains (AGS8 2014) and no further work in the area may take place until further actions have been agreed by all parties.

d) If the bones are deemed to be human, the Mine Manager shall contact and report the findings to the nominated kaumātua.

e) The remains shall be inspected by the nominated kaumātua and the Police with the Mine Manager or designate present.

The Manager shall ensure that nominated kaumātua are given the opportunity to undertake karakia and such other religious or cultural ceremonies and activities at the site as may be considered appropriate in accordance with Tikanga Māori.

f) The remains shall be removed from the finding area under careful supervision.

g) The nominated kaumātua shall be responsible for the remains after Police have completed their inquiries.

h) In the event of finding an item of cultural significance, the Mine Manager shall arrange for an Archaeologist recording of any items of cultural significance that has been found.

i) At least one of the nominated kaumātua shall be informed if any possible taonga or Māori artefacts are identified to enable appropriate tikanga to be undertaken. A copy of the recording is to be provided to the nominated kaumātua representative who attends the discovery.

j) The Mine Manager shall inform the HNZPT and Waikato Regional Council of the discovery, who are required to issue written approval for works to recommence.

4. RECORDS

The Mine Manager shall retain records for a period of 7 years.

5. REFERENCES

Archaeological authority in respect of the Central and Southern Blocks.

Taharoa Mine Resource Consents.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

Preliminary Archaeological Appraisal (Held in Resource Room Taharoa). 5th July 2000. Clough R.

Taharoa Ironsands Central and Southern Blocks: Archaeological Assessment. 2025. Clough & Associates, Glen Farley.

Taharoa Ironsands Central and Southern Blocks: Archaeological Management Plan. 2025. Clough & Associates, Glen Farley.