

NGATI WHAKAUE - SUBMISSION FEEDBACK

Caland Holdings Ltd Proposal
Fast Track Committee

1. Introduction

Ngati Whakaue acknowledges the opportunity to present this submission to the Fast Track Committee in relation to the Caland Holdings Ltd proposal, Milbrow Estate.

Ngati Whakaue is a mana whenua hapū of Te Arawa, with long-standing ahi kā and customary authority across our rohe. Our responsibility to protect and sustain our whenua, wai, taonga, and cultural landscapes is grounded in whakapapa and exercised through rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga.

This submission reflects a deliberate and unified Ngati Whakaue position, focused on protecting our interests while engaging constructively with the Crown, applicants, and neighbouring iwi and hapū.

2. Summary of Position

Ngati Whakaue holds significant concerns regarding both the Fast Track process and the Caland Holdings Ltd proposal as currently framed.

Ngati Whakaue supports responsible, culturally aligned development where it upholds our values, protects our taonga, and delivers tangible benefits to our people.

Ngati Whakaue maintains a position of conditional support only where strict cultural, environmental, and governance requirements are met. In the absence of these conditions, Ngati Whakaue cannot support the proposal.

Ngati Whakaue emphasises that no process or outcome should compromise our rangatiratanga or the protection of our taonga.

3. Alignment of Shared Positions

Ngati Whakaue confirms its support for key positions raised by Ngati Rangiwhewehi. This reflects shared responsibilities as kaitiaki and strengthens collective iwi and hapū interests.

In particular, Ngati Whakaue aligns with the following positions:

- Environmental protection: Whenua and wai must be actively safeguarded from degradation.
- Protection of cultural values: There are significant concerns regarding impacts on wāhi tapu and wider cultural landscapes.
- Process integrity: The Fast Track process risks limiting meaningful engagement with mana whenua and undermining robust decision-making.

This alignment reflects shared responsibilities and values, while Ngati Whakaue maintains its independent authority and decision-making position.

4. Ngati Whakaue Perspective

These positions are grounded in Ngati Whakaue values, including kaitiakitanga, rangatiratanga, manaakitanga, and whanaungatanga.

Ngati Whakaue is committed to protecting whenua, wai, and taonga for current and future generations. This includes ensuring that development occurs in a way that strengthens, rather than diminishes, cultural identity, environmental integrity, and intergenerational wellbeing.

5. Fast Track Process Commentary

Ngati Whakaue has significant concerns regarding the Fast Track framework and its application to this proposal.

The process, as currently structured, constrains meaningful engagement and risks undermining Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles, including partnership, active protection, and equity. The limited opportunity for genuine participation by mana whenua raises serious concerns about the legitimacy and durability of outcomes.

In addition, the potential environmental, cultural, social, and economic impacts of the proposal have not been sufficiently addressed. There is a lack of clarity around mitigation measures and an absence of hapū-led cultural impact assessment.

Ngati Whakaue emphasises that any development of this scale must be undertaken in genuine partnership. Engagement must be meaningful, early, and ongoing, with Ngati Whakaue involved as a decision-maker rather than treated as a stakeholder.



6. Recommendations

Ngati Whakaue recommends deferring any decision until meaningful engagement is completed.

Require hapū-led cultural assessment and Treaty-consistent decision making.

Including the following recommendations:

- Defer any decision on the proposal until meaningful, good faith engagement with Iwi has been completed
- Require hapū-led cultural impact assessments to be undertaken prior to any approvals
- Ensure all decision-making processes are consistent with Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations, including partnership and active protection
- Embed enforceable conditions that protect whenua, wai, wāhi tapu, and cultural landscapes

7. Conclusion

Ngati Whakaue reiterates alignment with Ngati Rangiwewehi and other key shared positions while maintaining independent authority and commitment to protecting our rohe.

Development must not proceed at the expense of our rangatiratanga, our taonga, or the integrity of our rohe.

The current proposal and process do not yet meet the standards required to ensure these protections.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'M' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Manuariki Tini
General Manager
Whakaue Resource Management Unit