

25 August 2025

Wellington International Airport Ltd

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Tēnā koe ██████,

RE: WIAL: Southern Seawall Renewal Project

Thank you for consulting Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira (Te Rūnanga) regarding this proposal.

Te Rūnanga is the mandated iwi authority for Ngāti Toa Rangatira (Ngāti Toa). As such, we carry the responsibility of upholding the mana, values, and interests of our iwi within our rohe. These connections are reflected in our whakapapa, histories, and Treaty settlement redress, including statutory acknowledgements and ongoing applications under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011.

The south coast, including Lyall Bay and Moa Point, holds deep cultural significance for Ngāti Toa Rangatira, the coastline has long been a mahinga kai, supporting customary fishing and gathering of taonga species such as paua, kina, and koura. Our connection to Te Whanganui a Tara and Te Moana o Raukawa trace back to our tupuna Kupe and his tātara-ā-punga Maungaroa. This history is affirmed through generations of seasonal occupation, customary use, and Treaty settlement redress.

In addition, Ngāti Toa holds statutory acknowledgements over several areas along the south coast, including Oteranga Bay, Tokahaere (Thoms Rock), Sinclear Head Scientific Reserve, Pariwhero (Red Rocks), Taputeranga Island, Te Whanganui a Tara (Wellington Harbou) and Te Moana o Raukawa (Cook Straight) as recognised in the Ngāti Toa Rangatira Claims Settlement Act 2014.

Te Rūnanga has previously outlined the significance of the south coast in two Cultural Impact Assessments: the 2015 CIA for the previous Wellington Airport Runway Extension and the 2024 Wellington South Coast CVA. These assessments emphasise the importance of protecting mauri, water quality, ecological integrity, and the enduring cultural relationships of Ngāti Toa with Te Moana o Raukawa.

We continue to uphold our kaitiaki responsibilities in these areas and seek to ensure that any development reflects and respects these enduring cultural relationships and the commitments made under our Treaty settlement.

The Application

Wellington International Airport Limited (WIAL) proposes the Southern Seawall Renewal Project to address the deteriorating condition of the existing seawall infrastructure. The project is being advanced under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

and aims to safeguard long-term airport operations against natural hazards, increase resilience to climate change and reduce ongoing maintenance demands.

The proposal seeks to replace the existing seawall infrastructure, which has reached the end of its functional life. Key elements include:

- Establishment of three construction yards (Miramar Golf Course, Moa Point, and George Bolt Street).
- Reconstruction of approximately 400 metres of seawall using rock and Cubipods.
- Remediation of 80 metres of eroding Eastern Bank.
- Creation of two kororā colonies to support habitat and breeding.

The project is expected to span 6 - 8 years, with seawall construction taking 24 - 30 months. Works will be managed to maintain airport operations, minimise disruption, and address environmental constraints including sediment control and ecological restoration.

The proposal reflects a commitment to cultural values and environmental stewardship, with ongoing engagement with mana whenua and incorporation of recommendations from marine ecology assessments.

The Position of Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira

We acknowledge the engagement that WIAL has undertaken with Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira throughout the development of this project. This has been important in shaping an approach that better reflects mana whenua values.

Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira supports the application subject to the implementation of the agreed conditions and management plans, particularly those relating to:

Kororā: relocation, colony establishment, and iwi involvement in management.

Marine and terrestrial ecology: protection and restoration measures in line with ecological advice.

Archaeology and taonga tūturu: clear protocols for discovery and iwi involvement.

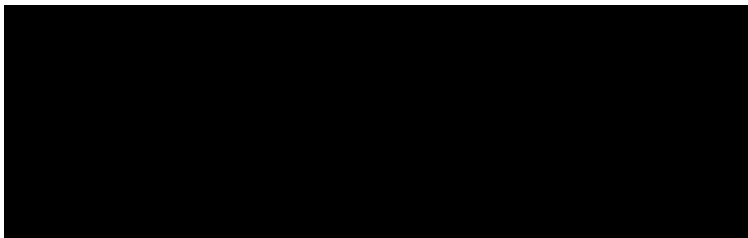
Ongoing engagement: establishment of an advisory group to ensure mana whenua involvement during project delivery.

We consider that these measures appropriately address and mitigate potential adverse effects on cultural and environmental values.

Conclusion

Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira supports Wellington International Airport Limited's application for the Southern Seawall Renewal Project. Our support is conditional on the full and ongoing implementation of the agreed conditions and management plans. As kaitiaki, we emphasise the need for a sustainable and culturally appropriate approach to the ongoing construction and management of Wellington International Airport Limited.

Nga mihi,



Website: www.ngatitoa.iwi.nz