



TE RUNANGA O NGATI HINE

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SUBMISSION OF TE RUNANGA O NGATI HINE THE BREAM BAY SAND EXTRACTION FAST-TRACK PROCESS

**Convener's Conference for Bream Bay Sand Extraction Project
[FTAA-2511-1150]**

Response dated 26 May 2026

*TAUPARAPARA
Ka papa te whatitiri
Ka hikohiko te uira
Kahukura ki te rangi
He ai tū ka riri rongo mai ka hē
Ko ngunguru
Ko ngāngana
Ko aparangi
Ko te titi o te rua, ko te tao whakawahine
Ko te motumotu o te riri
Ko te awa o ngā rangatira
Taumarere herehere i te riri
Te puna i keteriki
Keteriki, kete tana riki
Ko Ngāti Hine Pukepuke Rau!!*

1. INTRODUCTION

This submission is filed on behalf of Te Runanga o Ngati Hine in relation to the Bream Bay Sand Extraction Project and the ongoing fast-track process before the Panel.

Ngati Hine does not make this submission on the basis of mana i te whenua or mana moana within Bream Bay. We acknowledge and respect the hapu and iwi who hold those relationships and responsibilities within the area directly affected by this proposal. Our position is instead one

of tautoko for those hapu and iwi who carry those responsibilities and who will live with the long-term environmental, cultural, and intergenerational consequences of decisions made in relation to this environment.

Ngati Hine also approaches this matter through the lens of Te Taiao as an interconnected system. Environmental degradation within coastal and marine environments rarely remains confined to a single site. The cumulative pressure placed upon interconnected ecosystems over time can create wider consequences for ecological resilience, taonga species, waterways, and future generations.

We remain concerned that significant cultural, ecological, and procedural matters continue to evolve throughout this process, including through requests for further information, revised conditions, and ongoing procedural developments before the Panel.

In our view, proposals of this scale require a process that is fair, transparent, culturally competent, and capable of supporting meaningful participation by affected hapu and iwi, particularly where important environmental and tikanga considerations remain under active examination.

2. THE INTEREST OF NGATI HINE IN THIS MATTER

Ngati Hine recognises that the hapu and iwi of the area are best placed to speak directly to their own cultural relationships, histories, tikanga, and environmental concerns relating to Bream Bay. Therefore, our submission does not seek to speak over those voices or substitute them. Rather, we support the need for those concerns to be properly heard, properly tested, and given sufficient weight throughout this process.

We also recognise that environmental systems do not operate in isolation. Decisions affecting the moana have the potential to create wider environmental consequences over time, particularly where uncertainty remains regarding cumulative effects, ecological recovery, adaptive management, and long-term environmental pressure.

For Ngati Hine, this submission is ultimately about supporting a process that is careful, balanced, precautionary, and fair to those communities most directly affected.

3. KEY CONCERNS

The key concerns of Ngati Hine can broadly be summarised as follows:

- Significant ecological, cultural, and procedural matters remain under active consideration before the Panel.
- Material has continued to evolve throughout the process, including through requests for further information, revised conditions, and procedural developments.
- The pace of the process risks reducing the ability of iwi and hapu to meaningfully engage with evolving information and unresolved issues.
- Important matters relating to tikanga, consultation, ecological uncertainty, adaptive management, and draft conditions remain unresolved.
- Efficiency should not come at the expense of fairness, transparency, precaution, or meaningful participation.

These concerns are not minor procedural matters. They go directly to whether the application, its environmental effects, and its proposed safeguards have been properly scrutinised and tested.

4. TIKANGA AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONNECTION

For Ngati Hine, tikanga and matauranga Maori remain important considerations because they shape how relationships and responsibilities to Te Taiao are understood and maintained across generations.

Projects of this scale cannot be viewed solely through technical assessments or narrow site boundaries. They must also consider wider environmental relationships, long-term impacts, taonga species, interconnected ecosystems, and the responsibilities held by tangata whenua and affected hapu.

Where cultural information is sensitive or tikanga-protected, practical and respectful processes should exist to ensure that information can be managed appropriately while still maintaining procedural fairness.

Most importantly, affected iwi and hapu must have sufficient opportunity and time to speak to their own concerns, tikanga, and environmental perspectives.

5. PROCESS AND TIMING

The procedural history demonstrates that significant material continues to emerge throughout this process, including requests for further information, revised draft conditions, tikanga-related procedural matters, and ongoing clarification of key issues.

That matters because invited parties are being asked to engage while aspects of the evidential and procedural picture continue to evolve.

In the view of Ngati Hine, a process can still be efficient without becoming rushed. Meaningful participation requires realistic timeframes, particularly where iwi and hapu are responding to evolving material, unresolved issues, and technically complex environmental information.

6. WHAT NGATI HINE ASKS OF THE PANEL

Ngati Hine respectfully asks the Panel to:

- Ensure sufficient time is available for iwi and hapu engagement on cultural, ecological, and tikanga matters.
- Ensure invited parties have a fair opportunity to review and respond to evolving material, including Request For Information and revised draft conditions.
- Ensure commenters are not prejudiced by late or drip-fed information.
- Continue carefully scrutinising unresolved ecological matters, including adaptive management, benthic recovery, plume effects, and cumulative impacts.
- Avoid treating claimed economic or regional benefits as settled while material environmental and cultural questions remain under active consideration.
- Ensure cultural conditions and engagement frameworks do not unintentionally sideline affected iwi or hapu.
- Approach questions relating to status, representation, mana i te whenua, mana moana, ahi ka, and hau kainga carefully and without assumption.
- Ensure draft consent conditions remain open to meaningful review and comment before finalisation.
- Ensure procedural developments do not disadvantage iwi and hapu through compressed timeframes or evolving parallel processes.
- Maintain a process that is transparent, balanced, culturally competent, and capable of supporting meaningful participation throughout the remainder of proceedings.

7. ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Minutes issued by the Panel demonstrate that substantial matters remain under active scrutiny, including consultation, adaptive management, ecological uncertainty, tikanga concerns, procedural fairness, and the adequacy of draft conditions.

Ngati Hine supports the Panel's recognition that wider participation is necessary to ensure sound decision-making for a proposal of this scale.

The continued evolution of conditions, procedural matters, and supporting material reinforces the need for caution, transparency, fairness, and careful scrutiny moving forward.

8. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set out above, Te Runanga o Ngati Hine submits that this application requires a process that is not only efficient, but demonstrably fair, transparent, inclusive, culturally competent, and capable of supporting meaningful participation by affected iwi and hapu.

Ngati Hine respectfully supports the right of affected hapu and iwi to have their concerns properly heard, properly tested, and meaningfully considered throughout this process.

Where proposals carry the potential for long-term or irreversible impacts upon coastal and marine environments, precaution, careful scrutiny, and meaningful participation become particularly important.

We therefore ask that the process continue with realistic timeframes, proper accommodation of tikanga and Treaty-related considerations, and careful consideration of unresolved environmental, cultural, and procedural matters.