



Environmental Framework Plan

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Wārea te one tapu,

Ka hura tangata a uta, me tiakina atu ki tangata a tai, Ka hura tangata a tai, me tiakina atu ki tangata a uta. Kia oti ake te mahara ma te taiao mo ake tonu atu.

Clear the sacred pathway,

**And let those who care for the hinterland, be as one with those who reside by the seaside
Let those who care for the seaside, be of one thought with those of the hinterland. Only then will the care of the environment be secured forever.**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to set the direction and outline the priorities for the Wairakei Charitable Trust (the Trust).

The Trust was formalised in May 2007 with the signing of the Trust Deed by representatives of Nga Hapu o Wairakei and Contact Energy Limited.

The primary purpose of the Wairakei Charitable Trust is to assist Nga Hapu o Wairakei in maintaining their ancestral connection to their Waahi Tapu and other taonga affected by Contact Energy's geothermal operations on the Wairakei - Tauhara Geothermal System.

The ancillary purpose of the Trust is to recognise and promote the partnership between Nga Hapu o Wairakei and Contact Energy Limited enshrined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the parties in July 2003.

2.0 THE ROAD

2.1 Yesterday

Contact Energy Ltd owns and operates several geothermal power stations and is the primary users of the Wairakei – Tauhara geothermal field for the purpose of electricity generation.

In March 2001 Contact applied for a range of resource consents to permit the ongoing operation of the Wairakei and Poihipi Geothermal power stations and use of the Wairakei – Tauhara Geothermal field through to 2026 (“the 2001 Consents”).

Wairakei hapu groups lodged a number of submissions seeking that the environmental and cultural effects of the power stations are appropriately avoided, remedied or mitigated.

In July 2003 specific mana whenua hapu groups represented by the three signatory committees outlined below, and Contact Energy Limited, signed an overarching Memorandum of Understanding in which their desire to establish and maintain a long-term relationship based on mutual trust, openness and respect for each other's needs and values was recorded. The signatory committees (“Nga Hapu”) comprise:

- Rauhoto Land Rights Committee, which was established in 1991 at a Hui a Hapu of Rauhoto, Te Rangiita, Oruanui and Maroa Marae and which is mandated to deal with resource management issues within their rohe.
- Ngati Te Urunga has Tangata Whenua status within the Rauhoto Land Rights Rohe and the Tauhara RMA Rohe with the Ngati Te Urunga Committee Incorporation mandated to deal with resource management issues within their rohe.
- Te Kapa o Te Rangiita Whenua Komiti, hapu mandated committee supported by the Oruanui Marae Trustees with the role of addressing land and resource management related issues of significance to Oruanui a Tia.

In February 2004 Nga Hapu and Contact Energy Limited signed a Heads of Agreement which outlined an agreed position regarding Contact's 2001 Consents as outlined below:

“Contact acknowledges the mana whenua status and the kaitiakitanga role of Nga Hapu and will support resource consent conditions for an appropriately qualified hapu-nominated representative to be on the Wairakei Peer Review Panel and an appropriate feedback mechanism for Nga Hapu.

In relation to the particular cultural and resource management values held by Nga Hapu (including waahi tapu, mahinga kai, taonga and mauri) it is recognised there have been adverse effects associated with the past utilisation of the Wairakei-Tauhara geothermal system since the 1950s that cannot be remedied and are effectively irreversible in the short to medium term. It is also recognised that there is a need to assist Nga Hapu in maintaining their relationship with their waahi tapu and other taonga affected by the utilisation of the Wairakei Tauhara Geothermal System. As to their relationship, it is further recognised that there will be some ongoing adverse effects of future operations of the Power Plants that cannot be effectively avoided or remedied and need to be redressed.”

In light of these acknowledgments and as a consequence of the consultation undertaken, nga hapu agreed that they would not participate in opposition to the 2001 Consents on the basis that Contact Energy Limited would seek certain resource consent conditions, the investigation of subsidence effects in areas of special value to Nga Hapu and put in place the following mitigation package:

“Contact agrees to provide the following Mitigation Package to assist Nga Hapu in maintaining their ancestral and spiritual connection to their waahi tapu and other taonga affected by the activities consented pursuant to the Wairakei 2001 resource consent applications, and also to recognise and promote the partnership between Contact and the Wairakei-Tauhara Hapu Collective enshrined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the parties on 1 July 2003.

EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

To encourage and up skill nga hapu members in tertiary education with special emphasis in (but not limited to) the area of natural resource management, Contact will make available an annual Wairakei-Tauhara Hapu tertiary education scholarship of \$2,500. The scholarship amount shall escalate by \$500 per annum at the commencement of each fifth year anniversary from the date of this agreement, and the programme shall last for the duration of the Contact Wairakei resource consents applied for in 2001, once they are granted.

MITIGATION FUND

To provide an ongoing funding source for projects that meet the criteria outlined [in Clause 3.3 of the Trust Deed], from 2005 until the end of the consent period, Contact will make available on an annual basis a sum of \$100,000 (“The Annual Fund”) for the duration of the 2001 Contact Wairakei resource consents with the first annual payment to be made when the consents are granted under the Resource Management Act 1991 (for the avoidance of

doubt the parties agree that if the consents are granted after 2005 then the annual fund will be backdated to 2005 and if the consents are not granted this agreement will not be exercised). The sum will be adjusted annually to reflect the annual movement in the New Zealand Consumer Price (All Goods) Index published by Statistics New Zealand to the end of the latest quarter before the date of the disbursement of the funds.”

In September 2010 Nga Hapu and Contact signed a further agreement to mitigate the effects of Contact’s proposed Tauhara Power Station development on the taonga of Nga Hapu. This increased the mitigation package to \$150,000 per year (CPI adjusted) and a second annual scholarship of \$3,000, from the date of the exercise of the Tauhara Consents. The Tauhara Consents were exercised on 1 July 2011.

2.2 Today – Wairakei Charitable Trust

The Wairakei Charitable Trust was established to oversee the administration and provide direction for the content of the mitigation package.

In May 2007 the Trust Deed of the Wairakei Charitable Trust was signed by representatives of Nga Hapu and Contact Energy Limited. In September 2010 the Nga Hapu and Contact signed a further agreement to mitigate the effects of Contact’s proposed Tauhara Power Station development on the taonga of Nga Hapu.



The primary purpose of the Wairakei Charitable Trust is to assist Nga Hapu in maintaining their ancestral connection to their waahi tapu and other taonga affected by the activities of the Wairakei and Poihipi geothermal power stations.

The ancillary purpose of the Trust is to recognise and promote the partnership between Contact and Nga Hapu enshrined in the Memorandum of

2.3 Tomorrow – Achieving the Trust Objectives

The activities of the Trust will focus on:

- Relationship – enhance and protect the relationship between Contact and Nga Hapu
- Kaitiakitanga – enhance Nga Hapu kaitiaki role in the Wairakei-Tauhara area.
- Funding environmental and cultural projects that will assist in achieving the above two objectives.
- Provide scholarship grants to Nga Hapu descendants

2.4 Pathway – Trust Activities

There are four key mechanisms that the Trust will employ to achieve its objectives:

a) Relationship - enhance and protect the relationship between Contact and Nga Hapu

The Trust will:

- Develop a website to promote and show cases the activities of the Trust, including the objectives, governance and achievements.
- Hold an annual AGM/hui at which the activities of the Trust, as well as the activities and plans for Wairakei, are presented. This AGM/hui is to be held at Nga hapu marae on a rotating basis.
- At the AGM, Contact Energy will report back on the operations on the Wairakei-Tauhara Geothermal Systems.

b) Kaitiakitanga – enhance Nga Hapu kaitiaki role in the Wairakei-Tauhara area

The Trust will:

- Develop a “Cultural Management Protocol” for Contact Energy (Geothermal) which will guide Contact’s activities in areas of cultural and/or spiritual significance to Nga Hapu.
- Provide annual education grants for individuals who will provide tangible benefits to Nga Hapu in exercising their kaitiaki role.

c) Fund environmental and cultural projects

The Trust will:

- Provide funding from the Trust fund for cultural and spiritual enhancement projects such as Marae refurbishment and the recording of oral histories.
- Provide funding from the Trust fund for environmental projects such as research projects and environmental enhancements/ rehabilitation projects.

d) Provide scholarship grants

The Trust will:

- Provide annual education grants for individuals who will provide tangible benefits to Nga Hapu in exercising their kaitiaki role.

3.0 Administration

3.1 Meetings

The Trust will meet at least three times each year. Routine meetings will be held in:

- a) March: to discuss scholarship applications and residual project funding applications.
- b) August: to discuss and decide on the majority of project funding applications
- c) October: AGM and Hui.

Special meetings can be called at any time at the request of two of the Trustees.

3.2 Scholarships

To encourage and up-skill Nga Hapu members in tertiary education the Trust will make available an annual Wairakei-Tauhara Hapu tertiary education scholarship.

The scholarships are available to students studying at any registered tertiary institution with a special emphasis in, but not limited to, the area of natural resource management. There shall be up to two scholarship grants per year with the allocation of the available fund being at the discretion of the Trustees.



There is a possibility of an internship at Contact Energy Limited Wairakei power station that may be considered for each scholarship applicant, subject to availability and at the discretion of the Trustees.

It will be the preference of the Trust for payment of the scholarship to go directly to relevant tertiary institution.

Applicants for scholarships must currently be living in New Zealand. Applicants must whakapapa to one of Nga Hapu for at least four generations.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate / enunciate how their education will benefit Nga Hapu. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have the qualifications and capacity to undertake the proposed study.

Scholarships are available for tertiary study outside of New Zealand.

3.3 Projects

Funding is available from the Trust to undertake cultural and environmental projects that meet the criteria outlined in the Trust Deed.

The Trust will advertise and actively seek applications for funding at least two months prior to the close of the application round.

Applications that seek in excess of \$100,000 must be approved by the Trustees and receive hapu ratification. Applications of less than \$100,000 need only Trustees approval.

3.4 Information Sharing

Representatives of the Wairakei Trust will endeavour to meet with representatives of the Tauhara Geothermal Charitable Trust annually.

The Trust website will be regularly updated with the details and key milestones of those projects that receive funding from the Trust. It is envisaged that showcasing the outcomes of funded projects may encourage other potential projects to apply for funding from the Trust.