

ENV-2025-AKL-000160

Under the	Resource Management Act 1991 (the RMA)
In the matter	of an appeal under Clause 14(1) of the First Schedule of the Act
Between	ROY WETINI WHAANAU TRUST Appellant
And	WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL Respondent

21 August 2025

Notice of person's wish to be party to proceedings

To: The Registrar
Environment Court
Auckland

And to: Waitomo District Council

And to: Roy Wetini Whaanau Trust

INTRODUCTION

1. Te Ruunanga o Ngaati Mahuta ki te Hauaaauru (**TRONM**) wishes to be a party to the appeal ENV-2025-AKL-000160 by the Roy Wetini Whaanau Trust (the **Appellant**) against part of the decision of Waitomo District Council (the **Council** / the **Respondent**) on the Proposed Waitomo District Plan (the **Proposed Plan**)(the **Appeal**).
2. TRONM made a submission on the Proposed Plan dated 22 December 2022 (submitter number 35). TRONM also has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than the interest of the general public, as its trustees and beneficiaries are members of the hapuu it represents who will be directly affected by the provisions of the Proposed Plan that are the subject of the Appeal. TRONM has a direct interest in the outcome of the Appeal as the provisions in the Proposed Plan affect the use, development, and protection of our land, including potential papakaainga, access to customary resources, and safeguarding waahi tuupuna and waahi tapu for the hapuu members it represents.
3. TRONM presented statements of evidence alongside the Appellant at the Waitomo District Plan hearing held on 16 July 2024.
4. TRONM received notice of the Council's decision on the Proposed Plan on 19 June 2025 (the **Decision**) and was served with a copy of the Notice of Appeal by the Appellant on 1 August 2025.

- ## INTEREST IN THE PROCEEDINGS

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- Map of the study area in the Bay of Plenty, New Zealand. The map shows the coastline, major roads, and various locations. Key locations labeled include Te Kōwhiri Marae, Araroa Marae, Te Wai āa Rona, Oorangiwahao, Marae, Urupaa, Roads, and Lakes. A legend in the bottom right corner defines the symbols used. A scale bar at the bottom left indicates distances up to 5 km. A north arrow is located in the top right corner.

9. TRONM is interested in the entire Appeal.
10. TRONM supports all of the relief sought in the Appeal.
11. Without limiting the generality of the above, TRONM is particularly interested in the following relief sought by the Appellant:
 - a. Removal of all indicative rural production area notations from Taharoa A1C7C Block, Taharoa A1C16J2 Blk XVI Albatross SD Blk II Marokopa SD, Taharoa A1C15A Blk XVI Albatross SD and A1C12 Blk XVI Albatross SD;
 - b. Removal of all indicative rural production area notations from all other land parcels on Map 1 of the Plan where it is has not been demonstrated that pre-conditions are met and where evidence of consultation has not been provided;
 - c. Amendment of rule GRUZ-S6 to exclude its application from Maaori land;
 - d. Amendment of policies RPROZ-P4 and RPROZ-P6, and rule RPROZ-R25 in the Decision to the notified version of the provisions; and
 - e. Amendment of the Rural Production Zone map and RPROZ-SCHED1 to remove the allotments of the TIL Mine's Eastern Block.

POSITION ON RELIEF SOUGHT

12. TRONM supports the relief sought by the Appellant on the basis of the matters raised in our submission and evidence provided at the hearing held on 16 July 2024 and that the relief would:
 - a. More effectively promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources;

- b. More effectively enable the Council to carry out its functions to achieve the purpose of the RMA;
- c. Ensure the Proposed Plan is consistent with Part 2 of the RMA, in particular by recognising and providing for the relationship of Maaori with their ancestral lands, waters, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga as required under section 6(e), having particular regard to kaitiakitanga as required under section 7(a), and by taking into account the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi as required by section 8;
- d. More effectively enable the efficient and integrated use, development and protection of natural and physical resources;
- e. Ensure the Proposed Plan gives effect to higher order planning instruments in accordance with section 75 of the RMA;
- f. Be more effective in ensuring the actual and potential adverse effects on the environment are avoided, remedied, or mitigated; and
- g. More appropriately achieve the objectives of the Proposed Plan in terms of section 32 of the RMA.

MEDIATION

- 13.** TRONM agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



Signed: Nevada Huaki on behalf of John Kanawa (Chair - Te Ruunanga o Ngaati Mahuta ki te Hauaaaru Trust)

DATED 21 August 2025

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