

17 October 2022



RE: CULTURAL VALUES ASSESSMENT FOR WARWICK AND MARION STEFFERT, MORRINSVILLE

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1.0 He Kupu Whakataki / Introduction

A Private Plan Change Request and Assessment of Environmental Effects has been lodged by Monocole on behalf of Warwick and Marion Steffert to rezone approximately 13.4ha of land near the western edge of Morrinsville from Rural Zone to General Industrial Zone.

The Plan Change request would add approximately 10.3ha of developable land to the industrial land supply for Morrinsville. The site is pastoral cover with a central race and a network of farm drains. The land is currently used as a small drystock beef farm.

1.1 Kaupapa / Purpose

This purpose of this report is to ensure the principles, significant values and issues of NHIT are articulated, acknowledged and understood in response to the proposed development in Morrinsville.

Furthermore, this CVR aims to:

- Provide a description of the history cultural values and interests;
- Identify issues and opportunities for the incorporation of iwi values through an analysis of objectives and policies outlined in the Ngāti Hauā Environmental Management Plan called Te Rautaki Tāmata Ao Turoa o Hauā;
- Understand the actual and potential adverse effects on the cultural and environmental values in relation to the Plan Change, recognising that future resource consents will need to be sought for industrial subdivision and development;
- Avoid, remedy and mitigate adverse impacts to the wider catchment, including infrastructural demands on growth and demand;
- Outline recommendations to avoid, remedy and mitigate cultural and environmental concerns.

1.2 Te Waahi / Site Description and Survey Plans

The Plan Change site is located on the western side of Morrinsville and connects with land located to the east which is zoned Industrial under the ODP. The proposal is to rezone 13.4ha from Rural Zone to General Industrial Zone.



2.0 Ngāti Hauā Iwi Trust

Established on 16 July 2013, the NHIT is the post settlement governance entity for Ngāti Hauā. The purpose of the trust is to receive, manage and administer the assets on behalf of, and for the benefit of, the present and future members of Ngāti Hauā, including:

- To uphold the historical role of the Tumuaki of the Kīngitanga;
- The promotion amongst Ngāti Hauā of the educational, spiritual, economic, social and cultural advancement or well-being of Ngāti Hauā;
- The maintenance and establishment of places of cultural or spiritual significance to Ngāti Hauā;
- The promotion amongst Ngāti Hauā of health and well-being generally, including of the aged or those suffering from mental or physical or disability;
- A transfer or resettlement of Trust Assets in accordance with the Ratification Booklet and in accordance with the ratified Ratification Process resolutions specifically supporting the transfer of resettlement of Settlement redress to Recognised Recipients or certain persons, entities or trusts;
- Any other purpose that is considered by the Trustees from time to time to be beneficial to Ngāti Hauā

The hapū of Ngāti Hauā are Ngāti Te Oro, Ngāti Werewere, Ngāti Waenganui, Ngāti Te Rangitaupi and Ngāti Rangi Tawhaki. The marae are as follows:

- Rukumoana Marae
- Kai a Te Mata
- Waimakariri Marae
- Raungaiti
- Te Iti o Hauā

Each Marae have Kaitiaki-aa-rohe, who are mandated to represent the best interests of Ngāti Hauā in all environmental matters within their respective kaitiaki boundary.

2.1 Raupatu / Ngāti Hauā Claims Settlement Act 2014

The Ngāti Hauā Claims Settlement Act 2014 (The Settlement) addresses the non-raupatu elements of Ngāti Hauā's historical Treaty claims. The Settlement recognises breaches of the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles in its dealings with Ngāti Hauā. These breaches include:

- the operation and impact of the native land laws, which undermined the traditional tribal structures of Ngāti Hauā, made their lands more susceptible to partition, fragmentation and alienation, and allowed individuals to sell land against the wishes of other owners.
- the Crown's purchase of over 1,400 acres of Ngāti Hauā land from individuals in the twentieth century, in disregard of the collective decision of the owners not to sell.
- the cumulative effect of the Crown's actions and omissions, particularly in relation to raupatu, the operation and impact of native land laws, Crown and private purchasing, and



public works takings, leaving Ngāti Hauā with insufficient land for their present and future needs.

The settlement included an apology and agreed historical account, cultural redress as well as financial and commercial redress.

3.0 Ngā Kaupapa / Cultural and Environmental Related Issues

NHIT considers the area of Morrinsville where the project area is located a waahi taonga area and is concerned about the potential destruction of waahi taonga, traditional and cultural landscapes and the impacts on any natural and physical resources. Cultural heritage is important because it provides physical and emotional links to our past. This makes protecting our heritage, cultural and traditions vital to our continued well-being.

The relationship with the whenua (land) is of utmost importance especially in terms of maintaining customs and traditions. As kaitiaki, NHIT have responsibilities to look after and future proof whenua, in the context of sustainable development. Therefore, inappropriate activities that have adverse impacts on Papatuaanuku are not acceptable.

Specific issues associated with heritage and environment are:

- Mana and mauri of the cultural landscape is degraded, damaged, modified and potentially destroyed by industrial developments;
- Inadequate recognition of the significance of our cultural heritage and identity to Ngāti Hauā;
- If a cultural heritage site, taonga tuku iho (artefact) or koiwi (human remains) are accidentally uncovered, the correct procedures don't always take place; and
- Stormwater systems should be utilised that filter the stormwater so as to reduce their negative impacts on receiving waterways, namely Morrinsville Stream.

To realise cultural heritage values and aspirations it is important that partnership outcomes are established and maintained with an approach that is meaningful, sustainable short and long term.

4.0 Te Whakatau / Position Statement

Ngāti Hauā require that industrial growth must be serviced by suitable 3 waters infrastructure. The incremental and cumulative effects of urban growth have implications for current, outdated infrastructure within Morrinsville.

Stormwater discharge capacity and development growth within Morrinsville needs to be recognised and provided for in local authority planning and future proofing.

Improving stormwater management requires on site, land-based solutions to stormwater disposal, alongside initiatives to reduce the presence of sediments and contaminants in stormwater and reducing the volume of stormwater requiring treatment. Low impact development and low impact urban design are fundamental features of sustainable stormwater management.

Aligning stormwater treatment and disposal with best practice methods will have an overall benefit to water quality.

The Morrinsville wastewater treatment plant currently does not have the capacity to cater for urban growth.



Whilst sitting outside this specific plan change, the greater implication of accumulative growth needs to be catered for. Ngāti Hauā strongly advocates for Matamata Piako District Council to expedite the infrastructure upgrades within Morrinsville, to cater for and futureproof residential and industrial growth within the town.

5.0 Hei Whakawhanake / Mitigation Considerations

It is important that the proposed Plan Change cannot be assessed separately from the past use of the whenua and future intended use of the land, and the cumulative effects of such activities on the infrastructure, landscape and whenua within the wider rohe (area).

5.1 Waahi Tāonga: the protection and enhancement of whakapapa

A statutory acknowledgement is confirmed over the Morrinsville, and it is important that due regard is afforded to NHIT in response to any development in the area. Our cultural heritage is our physical and spiritual connection to the past, to our special places and to each other.

Whilst it is unclear as to nature of Māori archaeological significance there, the area being highly significant to NHIT means there is potential to unearth unknown archaeological artefacts during construction.

NHIT is not opposed to the Plan Change application subject to the following recommendations:

- Recommendation 1:** A cultural blessing is undertaken prior to commencement of remedial earthworks onsite.
- Recommendation 2:** Application of Accidental Discovery protocols where applicable.
- Recommendation 3:** To reaffirm ‘whakapapa’ the traditional cultural story/narrative to support the cultural indigenous place-making. The focus on opportunities to recognise and provide for the enhancement and tangible reflection of mana whenua cultural values as a key element of the site, including but not limited to:
- Landscaping design principles are applied within the industrial development that reflects cultural perspectives, ideas and materials, contemporary Māori culture where appropriate within the development. Where appropriate, native flora should be used and made abundant within the development.
- Wetlands are established for stormwater treatment, using native and traditional plant species where applicable.
- Recommendation 4:** Names for streets and reserve areas be adopted with Ngāti Hauā.
- Recommendation 5:** Local Government expedite the infrastructure upgrades to cater for growth.



5.2 Ngā Koi Ora: Customary Food and Resource Species and Biodiversity

All whenua (including soil) is precious to NHIT and whenua has significant spiritual, cultural and ecological importance. As kaitiaki, we have responsibilities to look after and promote net biodiversity enhancement within all projects.

Recommendation 6: This development must have on-site solutions to stormwater management, based on a multi-tiered approach to stormwater management that utilises the natural ability of Papatūanuku to filter and cleanse stormwater and avoids the discharge of contaminated stormwater to stream.

Recommendation 7: Effective measures must be identified and implemented to manage stormwater runoff during the construction phase, given the high sediment loads that stormwater may carry because of pasture/vegetation clearance.

Recommendation 8: Contributions to the restoration of the Morrinsville Stream be undertaken.

5.3 Tūhonotanga: Partnership

NHIT recognises that relationships/partnerships are key to achieving positive cultural and environmental outcomes. To meaningfully participate in these processes and to realise cultural, environmental values and aspirations it is important that relationships are established and maintained with an approach that enduring and authentic.

Recommendation 8: NHIT will continue to work in good faith with the Steffert family, to promote the cultural values and significance of the area in relation to Ngāti Hauā values and principles within the industrial development.

Ngāti Hauā Iwi Trust recognise that good faith discussion has taken place in response to the Plan Change application as such we wish to continue to be empowered with opportunities within the development by being actively involved as partners in future heritage and environmental best practise.

Nāku noa, nā



Lisa Gardiner – General Manager

