

BEFORE THE HEARING COMMISSIONER

**IN THE
MATTER OF**

**The Resource Management Act
1991 (the Act)**

AND

**IN THE
MATTER OF**

**Waikato District Council Proposed
District Plan:
Hearing 4-Tangata Whenua.**

**HIGHLIGHTS STATEMENT OF CAROLYN ANNE MCALLEY FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA**

Highlights Summary

- 1.1 The following is a summary of my concerns in relation to the s42 planners report and rebuttal report in relation to the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) submission point to include amendments to the 2.15.1-Policy-Nгаа taonga tuku iho (Maaori sites and areas of Significance), to amend the title of the policy to include the words “Wahi Tapu”, make reference to inappropriate modification in section (b) and make a further amendment to include a new section (c) to the Policy to provide guidance relating to the destruction of these sites.
- 1.2 With regard the wider context of the HNZPT submission points, HNZPT sought these amendments to align with other amendments sought in the proposed Plan, to create an objective, policy and rule cascade in relation to works in Maaori sites and areas of Significance and also the destruction of such sites. In related submission points HNZPT sought the inclusion of the HNZPT listed Wahi Tapu /Wahi Tapu Area within the Waikato District, in their entirety, into a new schedule in the Proposed Plan and for them to be subject to the policy and rule framework under discussion. The inclusion of the HNZPT listed Wahi Tapu/Wahi Tapu Area is sought throughout the country at the time of proposed plans to provide protection for these significant sites. HNZPT pursues a non-complying activity status for the destruction of such sites, just as it does for other significant historic heritage items for example the demolition of heritage buildings. I note that the Proposed Plan includes a non-complying activity status/discretionary activity status for the demolition of a Category 1 and category 2 buildings respectively.
- 1.3 The reporting planner has rejected the HNZPT submission point advising that the proposed framework is sufficient to protect the sites and the framework as proposed enables the mechanism for Kaitiakitanga under the RMA 1991 s7.
- 1.4 I do consider that the Policy should contain direction and guidance on the matter of the complete destruction of these sites given that they have been recognised as significant in the proposed Plan. Similar direction is contained in many recent plans, for example Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in part:

“D21 Sites and Places of Significance to Mana Whenua Overlay

D21.3 Policies (rcp/dp)

(1) Avoid the physical destruction in whole or in part of sites and places of significance during earthworks”

1.5 It may be that the amendments proposed by HNZPT with regard destruction could use alternative wording and this could be canvassed further at the Hearing should the Panel consider this appropriate.

Carolyn McAlley

For Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

