

**BEFORE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY THE WAIKATO DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

UNDER the Resource Management Act 1991

IN THE MATTER of a further submission on the proposed Waikato District
Plan by BioTech New Zealand (further submission no.
1225)

**PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE FROM SEAN SIMPSON_LANZATECH
FOR BIOTECH NEW ZEALAND (BIOTECHNZ)**

18 December 2019

Author: Dr Sean Simpson

Title: Co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer

Company: Lanzatech

Lanzatech is a clean-technology venture that has led the way in developing new ideas in Bio-commodity Technology. Sean is a pioneer in finding environmentally sustainable ways to create bio-fuels. Lanzatech in April 2104 relocated 30 employees from New Zealand to a new Illinois hub to serve as the firm's research and development (R&D) centre with a new investment there of more than \$19.9 million.

“The stringent limitations on working with synthetic organisms in New Zealand were a strong contributory argument in favour of relocating LanzaTech to the USA. We are developing and commercializing advanced, environmentally beneficial, technology to enable “above-ground” carbon resources such as waste streams from Industry, society and agriculture to be converted into valuable fuels and chemicals. Since moving we have been able to grow our international team of highly talented synthetic biologists to the point that we are now recognized as the global leader in the development of synthetic biology for gas consuming organisms. Many of the chemical monomers we are able to produce can only be synthesized biologically from above ground carbon resources using synthetic organisms” Dr S Simpson, personal communication, December 18, 2019.