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Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui

Cnr. Riverside Drive & Guthrie Street P.O. Box **36-1** 11, Moera. Lower Hutt **PH: 04** 566-82 14, FAX: **04** 566-8308

8th March 2000

Wayne Hastie Manager Resource Policy Wellington Regional Council Fax: 385-6960 WELLINGTON

Dear Wayne,

I respond to your urgent request regarding Annual Plan Submissions.

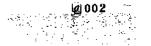
We have considered what we would regard as important issues arising from the annual plans for,

- environment division,
- the water group utilities services division
- land care division

The Runanga makes the following comments,

LAND CARE DIVISION -- PROPOSED BUSINESS PLAN 2000 -- 2001

1. At paragraph 1.1 under Regional Parks is listed the "East Harbour Regional Park". This was a priority for the Runanga in its early stages but for some reason we have been left out of planning and the propositions that we have made ignored There is abii question mark now in respect to this development, which we would require to be responded to by the Regional Council. We have a great deal of archaeological evidence as to Pa sites as well as our stated eagerness to develop the two Lakes Kohanga Te Ra and Kohanga Whakapiripiri as an important eel food source for our iwi. We would Eke answers in respect to this project.



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- 2. **Paragraph** 1.2 "Stewardship for the Councils Natural Forested Areas". Here again we have a situation where we have not been involved as a Runanga with the planning in respect to vegetation and pest management monitoring in forested areas. Given the strong and continued Maori interest and usage of herbs and other plant life in the Regional Park Forest, it would be a positive move by the Council to undertake serious discussion with us. This would also apply to the issues of management related to paragraph 13.
- 3. In respect to paragraph 1.4 "Encouraging Community Involvement", the statement "developing closer links with an involvement by iwi in the parks and forests" is certainly a proposal strongly supported by the Runanga.

THE WATER GROUP OPERATING PLAN – UTILITIES SERVICES DMSION 2000 - 2 0 0 1

The **Runanga certainly** supports the **"public ownership"** (3.7) of the water supply **system.** It does however support a **request from the Waiwhetu** Maori community to be **supported** in **obtaining** access to **its traditional artesian** water **supply.** This is a request, which we submit **should be part of the Wellington Regional Council plans.**

In regard to paragraph 1.5 "Business Efficiency – long term performance indicator", there does not seem to be any record of a discussion on whether or not metered water has been seriously considered for long term conservation of the asset. To give balance to the plan and integrity it would be important in our opinion to ensure such a discussion is undertaken.

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION OPERATING PLANS 2000 – 2010

Reference 2.5 "Working with hi". The **Council plan** to continue with the aratahi design is to be commended Nevertheless there is doubts as to the effectiveness of improving the relationship and outcomes for each specific iwi. Nevertheless, the aratahi as a "principles setting group" does provide councillors with a collective Maori view on some strategic and high-level policy matters. It should be supported on the condition that the activity proportionately should be no more that 5% of the total Maori relationship activity of the Regional Council. At least 90% of resources and time should be spent on specific iwi issues. Issues relating to a specific tangata whenua locality.

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Reference 3.5 **"Working** with **Iwi"**. The **Runanga wishes** to make the point that members of the **iwi** are also **ratepayers**. They are part **of the public good responsibility carried** by the **Regional** Council, but the point is well made in the plan of the **inability** of iwi to participate in **a meaningful way** without assistance.

The proposal which had been put to the Council some years ago was that in the case of the Runanga, there should be financial resources of at least \$45,000p.a. to equip one FTE totally responsible for Regional Council business.

Reference 1.3 "Promoting Good Ervironmental Management". We are not confident that the Regional Council discharges the integrity and responsibility encased in "promoting wise environmental management practices". The experiences with the objection by their Runanga to grant a resource consent to "Living Earth" to use sludge for garden manure is an example of why we raise such a concern. The Council should make a "declaratory statement" supported by public opinion ill respect to such issues. In that regard 1.5 collecting unwanted agricultural chemicals / domestic hazardous waste – quotation "in 2003, we intend to begin a collection of household hazardous waste", the Council does declare that it must "do something about" actual ^{OF} potential environmental problems. The Runanga views that it has the power not to support cases as that of the "Living Earth". It would seem that the Regional Council should now take action to reverse that resource consent. A further significant reference is at 4.1.2 "Defuse Accumulative Influences on the Environment."

Sincerely uketapu Chief Executive Officer