

IN THE MATTER OF

The Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

Notices of requirement for designations under section 168 of the Act, in relation to Te Ahu a Tūranga; Manawatū Tararua Highway Project

BY

NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY

Requiring Authority

**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF JUSTIN TAMIHANA
REPRESENTING NGĀTI RAUKAWA**

13 March 2019

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Tēnā koutou. My name is Justin Eruiti Tamihana.
- 1.2 I belong to Ngati Huia, but affiliate to many iwi of this land, such is the nature of our whakapapa that connects us all.
- 1.3 My pepeha connects me to the rivers and maunga that the Te Ahu a Tūranga project will impact upon.
- 1.4 I am the Cultural Monitoring Co-ordinator for Te Rūnanga o Raukawa.

2.0 EXPERIENCE

- 2.1 As the Cultural Monitoring Co-ordinator, I have been conducting field work and coordinating a team of 15 Cultural Monitors for seven months on several major civil construction sites in the region, including the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) project at Whirokino.
- 2.2 In this role I have worked alongside Heritage NZ and archaeologists, where I have managed accidental discoveries of tupuna and waahi tapu.
- 2.3 I have also assisted in the monitoring of waterways, environmental incidents, and the building of wetlands.
- 2.4 My team and I have become experienced at managing blessings of sites of significance, burials, new works, and where needed, accidents and trauma.

3.0 PRESENTATION AT HEARING

- 3.1 I would like to address the Hearing Panel on the Notices of Requirement (“NoR”) lodged in respect of Te Ahu a Turanga.
- 3.2 At the hearing, I intend to give a kōrero and supporting presentation.
- 3.3 My presentation will demonstrate some of the cultural/environmental monitoring work I have been involved in, and the on-the-ground steps we have taken to address cultural matters and issues as they have arisen. These responses complement the higher-level work that will be undertaken as part of the Environmental Cultural Design Framework (ECDF) process to address cultural/environmental impacts associated with the project.

- 3.4 My presentation will address the following:
- (a) Challenges and opportunities of working with NZTA roading projects.
 - (b) Skills tāngata whenua gain the field
 - (c) Maps and managing Waahi Tapu
 - (d) Kaitiaki work monitoring wetlands and environmental incidents
 - (e) Maunga to the sea
- 3.5 Kahungunu are working with Ngati Raukawa. It is a productive relationship, which we will continue to support and welcome all others.

Justin Tamihana

13 March 2019