

# *Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo*



*Kāwhia Moana  
Kāwhia Kai  
Kāwhia Tāngata*



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5 March 2021

Hon Andrew Little  
Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Minister  
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Tena Koe Hon Minister Little

Ngā mihi i runga i te āhuratanga o te wā.  
Pai marire

We are writing to express our concern and disappointment with the process by which the Ngāti Maniapoto Deed was signed and the contents of that settlement which substantially undermine the mana Motuhake of Ngāti Hikairo. We are also writing to request a meeting with you and that the Crown take action to remedy these concerns.

## **Process concerns**

While there was some correspondence late last year with Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo (Te Rūnanganui) regarding whether Ngāti Hikairo wished to be included in the settlement (it did not) and how Ngāti Hikairo's views in that regard could be reflected in the settlement, there was no substantive engagement on the content of the settlement. This has resulted in significant errors, inconsistencies, and omissions in the settlement document (refer next section and Appendix 1) which fail to recognise the mana motuhake and tino rangatiratanga of Ngāti Hikairo. Further, given the significant negative impacts the settlement may have on Ngāti Hikairo's own settlement aspirations and marine and coastal area claims, this failure to substantively engage falls well short of the active protection required of the Crown as a Treaty partner.

**Concerns with content**

The narrative included in the Deed of Settlement and the accompanying maps are significantly at odds with the Ngāti Hikairo evidence presented (and accepted by the Tribunal) through the Te Rohe Potae process. The settlement largely omits reference to Ngāti Hikairo and instead incorrectly recognises Hikairo lands, waterways, marae, hapū and even tupuna as being Maniapoto. In its current form the Deed effectively rewrites history and is a continuation of the failure by the Crown to recognise Ngāti Hikairo's separate tribal identity – an approach the Tribunal found to be unlawful in the Te Rohe Pōtae report.

**Request for remedy**

While the Deed of Settlement was signed on 17 December 2020, we understand that there is still a ratification and legislative process to step through. Given the significant issues identified in this letter (and Appendix), Te Rūnanganui requests that before any further steps are taken to ratify and/or legislate the settlement, that a process is agreed for us to work through our concerns with the Crown, and Ngāti Maniapoto. Any such process should recognise that the Crown is also Ngāti Hikairo iwi's Treaty partner, and as such, ensure that Ngāti Hikairo's Treaty rights are protected.

**Our action to date**

Te Rūnanganui have raised these matters with Te Arawhiti and Ngāti Maniapoto to remedy. However, given the seriousness of the errors, inconsistencies, and omissions within the Ngāti Maniapoto Deed of Settlement, and with the ratification and legislative process well underway, Te Rūnanganui considered it imperative that these matters were also raised directly with the Crown, as our Treaty Partner. Te Rūnanganui, therefore, request a meeting with you so that you may hear our concerns directly from us and that we agree on a process for remedy.

Te Rūnanganui look forward to your response.

No reira  
Ngā manaakitanga,



Susan Turner  
**Chairperson**  
**Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo**

## APPENDIX 1 – ERRORS, OMISSIONS AND INACCURACIES IN MANIAPOTO DEED OF SETTLEMENT

**1. Area of Interest (Pg3)-** this map includes part of Ngāti Hikairo territory on its Northern boundary. The boundaries of the Maniapoto mandate, rohe, and settlement have repeatedly been questioned and challenged. They do not reflect the reality of 1883, 1886, and 1889 which came as the result of joint petitions, joint applications and discussions, and agreements in and outside the Native Land Court and were finalised by Court decisions. A large part of what Maniapoto currently claims on the north-western boundary was **not only** awarded to Ngāti Hikairo in the Pirongia West and Mangauika Blocks, but some are still owned by Ngāti Hikairo, including the Ōpārau No.1 Farm.

**2. Te Ara-o-Tūrongo Map area (Pg5)-** Ngāti Hikairo experienced underhanded Government alienation of land in 1890 in the Mangauika Block directly related to the Railways. These purchases then led to the alienation of the majority of the parent block. This map area and the narrative in the Deed of Settlement does not reflect that the railway experience in Te Rohe Pōtae was not solely a Maniapoto experience.

**3.Coastal Statutory Acknowledgement Area (Pg8)-** Issues regarding the boundary within Kawhia harbour. Ngāti Hikairo evidence provided through the Tribunal process demonstrated that Kawhia Harbour has been and continues to be the stronghold of Ngāti Hikairo.

**4. Ngā Wai o Maniapoto (Pg22)-** in particular, numbers 1-8 - Ōpārau, Ōmanawa, Mangakōtukutuku, Mangapapa, Ōkūpata, Papakura, Waiinumia, and Waikuku, and the north western portion of the Waipā River Catchment including the western bank of the Waipā river, north of Te Arataura all the way to the Aukati Line and including the Mangauika Stream Catchment and the Tikirahi and Mangawawe Streams. These are all waterways within Ngāti Hikairo rohe.

**5. Part Pirongia Forest Park (Pg26)-** Ngāti Hikairo Boundary lies across the area defined and is not a traditional boundary of Ngāti Maniapoto. There needs to be clarification and confirmation, as Pirongia West 3A, and Mangauika A1 were part of the original parent blocks, Pirongia West, Mangauika, and Kāwhia awarded to Ngāti Hikairo.

**6. Te Kauri Park Scenic Reserve (Pg 31) –** Part of Ngāti Hikairo’s southern boundary is at the Te Kauri Stream, the Te Kauri Forest lies North within Ngāti Hikairo territory. Half of Te Kauri Park is known as Waikuku and is part of Pirongia West awarded to Ngāti Hikairo in 1889, 1892, and 1894.

**7. Maniapoto Historical/Existing Interests in the Exclusive Economic Zone (Pg 73)-** Includes offshore area within Ngāti Hikairo rohe.

**8. Areas covered by Raumairoa: Natural Resources Redress (Pg 77)-** Again issues regarding the Northern boundary as this is within Ngāti Hikairo rohe.

**9. RFR Land (Pg 88)-** This section includes Ngāti Hikairo lands that should be offered to Ngāti Hikairo for the right of first refusal as we are the tangata whenua:

1. Marginal Strips on Mangauika Stream - Hanning Road, Pirongia
2. Part Pirongia Forest Park - Including Pirongia West 3A and Manguaika A1, and potentially other sections
3. Te Kauri Park Scenic Reserve,
4. Conservation Area Pirongia
5. Marginal Strip - Mangauika Stream, Te Tahi Road, Pirongia

**10. Maniapoto Marae (Pg140)** - There are two marae of Ngāti Hikairo included - Mōkai Kāinga and Pūrekireki are both Ngāti Hikairo Marae. These are on Ngāti Hikairo lands with whakapapa and history relating to Ngāti Hikairo, not Ngāti Maniapoto. Mōkai Kāinga sits on lands that have current shares for the whānau of Ngāti Hikairo.

**11. Maniapoto Hapū (Pg150-151)** - There are multiple hapū of Ngāti Hikairo included- Ngāti Puhiawe, Ngāti Purapura, Ngāti Rāhui, Ngāti Urukahutaraheke, Ngāti Te Uru. Many of the issues noted above are also included in the *Maniapoto Deed of Settlement Schedule: Documents*, we want to reiterate that we are opposed to areas of Ngāti Hikairo rohe being included in this document.

We would also like to bring to your attention discrepancies related to the *Maniapoto Deed of Settlement Historical Claims- Part 1 Document*.

**1. Sections 1.32 and 1.33 (Pg20-21)** discusses Ngāti Hikairo claims not being included in Maniapoto Settlement but fails to recognise that Ngāti Hikairo interests appear to have been subsumed under Maniapoto in the settlement. There is no separate recognition that the boundaries, marae, hapū, RFR lands, rivers, and tributaries, Coastal and Economic Zones, are contested by Ngāti Hikairo etc as requested in previous emails to Te Arawhiti.

**2. Sections 1.45-1.50 (Pg23)**- We again disagree with the boundaries.

**3. The historical account from 2.79 to 2.135** does not correspond with Ngāti Hikairo's historical accounts. The 1883-1886 period in Te Rohe Pōtae, with petitions, the Kāwhia Native Committee, surveys, meetings and agreements with the Government officials and iwi, and a joint Native Land Court application for Te Rohe Pōtae was a joint exercise of five iwi, Raukawa, Hikairo, Tūwharetoa, Whanganui and Maniapoto. This narrative does not reflect that reality.

Concerning the *Maniapoto Deed of Settlement Historical Claims –Part 2*. We would like to highlight the following issues that need to be reviewed and addressed:

**5.165-5.191 (Pg196-200)** The provision for Relationship agreements with Ngāti Maniapoto in areas within Ngāti Hikairo's rohe fails to recognise and respect the mana Motuhake and separate tribal identity of Ngāti Hikairo in those areas. This is particularly in the following areas: Maniapoto Historical Interests, Exclusive Economic Zone, Ngā Wai o Maniapoto and Kāwhia Harbour negotiations.

**9.6.2 - I-IV - Maniapoto tupuna definition- iii - Descent from Rakataura**

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo has concerns about the various definitions of descent provided. There are two lists of hapū, one an official hapū list, and the second an inexhaustive list of hapū that may have links to other iwi. This second list includes hapū of Ngāti Hikairo and a list of tūpuna, that descend from Rereahu. It also includes two tūpuna, Hiaroa, and Rakataura who came on the Tainui Waka. Ngāti Hikairo claim through Rakataura I, who came on the waka as our tupuna, and then three other Rakataura who have helped establish the mana whenua, whakapapa, hapū and rohe boundaries of Ngāti Hikairo. If Tūrongo was the basis of the Rohe Pōtae Investigation headed by Wahanui, Tūrongo is the grandfather of Rereahu, the father of Maniapoto, why are Rakataura and Hiaroa set as founding tūpuna of Ngāti Maniapoto? There have been promises that Ngāti Hikairo is not linked or included in the Settlement, however, we have marae, hapū, and now our tūpuna included the definition of Maniapoto descent groups.

Finally, in the *Maniapoto Deed of Settlement Schedule: Property Redress*, Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo want to highlight that

**3. Licensed Land (Pg7)** -Pirongia Forest, this area lies within the boundary of Ngāti Hikairo Rohe.