

K.J. Landaus
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18 June 1997

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Rt. Hon. J.B. Bolger
Prime Minister
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Mr Bolger

Re: Ngai Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Bill and Te Runanga O Ngai Tahu Settlements

As founder/spokesperson and executive member of the Jade Miners and Manufacturers Affiliation and NZ Jade Industry Association, I wish to advise you of my concerns regarding the above settlements.

Our Association, which includes three hundred members, has endorsed a submission prepared by myself on it's behalf, to oppose the Ngai Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Bill and it's policies. The principle reasons for objecting is that the Crown has not considered the rights of the general public and has not satisfied adequate compensation with existing mining applicants.

I, along with many other persons, am quite frankly, appalled that we must ask or accept monetary payouts in return for the revokement of our livelihoods and rights to our discoveries. However, the majority of us were prepared to accept this if it is the only means to avoid conflict on the issues. To date the Government has not recognised the huge personal sacrifice we in the jade industry have made in conceding the pending losses of our current rights to the resource.

For nearly ten years we have had to endure a Government directive on the non-processing of our legitimate claims to our discoveries. Subsequent to your Governments stance on these matters I am now obliged to reconsider my position on the entire Maori claims issues and in particular the proposed Pounamu vesting.

Because of amounting documented evidence from meetings and discussions between Ngai Tahu and the Crown, including vast monetary deposits of tax payers funds, the honesty and integrity of your Government should be questioned. Predetermined strategies between the two parties when formulating policy has also been evident confirming the blatant suppression of others rights.

I respectfully urge that you may reconsider the present approach on these claim settlements, not only because of the damage you could create to the respectability of your Government and it's policies but for the future stability of our country. There is a large

portion of our population that are getting very concerned over the many unjust demands put on them by Maoridom with Crown approval.

I do not think they will tolerate these seemingly prejudicial divisions in our society for much longer. Surely we cannot have one law for Maori and one for others.

I do hope you agree and take some urgent initiative to rectify the volatile situation because I feel that the fuse is already lit and it is considered by many that it was your policies which have ignited it.

The Ngai Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Bill and its respective policies is indicative that Government has lost control of the situation of resolving Maori claims and grievances.

With respect, you must strive to make our nation as one New Zealand, not two!

For your information on some of the matters raised in this letter, I attach copies of our Submission and personal letters to the Hon. Mr. D. Graham.

Yours faithfully

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Kenn Landaus