

12 July 2004

Kenneth J Landaus
R D 2, Tukunua
Takaka
GOLDEN BAY

Dear Mr Landaus

TE RUNANGA O NGAI TAHU – APPLICATIONS TO MINE POUNAMU

I refer to your letter of 22 June 2004 regarding Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu and applications to mine pounamu.

In response to your queries:

- The Crown has not entered into any agreement with Ngai Tahu or any other party obligating them to allocate mining or access rights for pounamu under the provisions of the Ngai Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997.
- Ngai Tahu released the Pounamu Resource Management Plan in October 2002. The plan provides some guidance in respect of both pounamu fossicking by the general public and pounamu extraction and mining by the Kaitiaki Runanga of Ngai Tahu. It does not however extend to external parties seeking to extract pounamu for commercial reasons. I would suggest you contact Ngai Tahu direct to determine if they have made any further policy decisions in this regard.
- Access arrangements for mineral extraction that are negotiated with land holding Ministers, or any landowner for that matter, do not have to be lodged with Crown Minerals. I am therefore unable to assist you with your final query.

Yours sincerely



Barry Winfield
Senior Advisor, Petroleum & Minerals Policy