

**Office of Hon Harry Duynhoven
MP for New Plymouth**

Minister of State
Associate Minister of Transport
Associate Minister of Energy

AER 04-05/0027

26 AUG 2004

Kenneth J Landaus
R D 2, Tukurua
~~Takaka~~
GOLDEN BAY

Dear Mr Landaus

I refer to your letter of 16 July 2004 to Hon Damien O'Connor expressing your concerns regarding licensing matters and the transfer of ownership of pounamu to Ngai Tahu that has been referred to me for a response.

The matters surrounding prospecting licence application 31 2583, mining permit application 41 452 and mining licence 32 3021, and the consequential effect of the enactment of the Ngai Tahu (Pounamu Vesting) Act 1997 on the aforementioned, have been the subject of a significant amount of ongoing correspondence between yourself and the Ministry of Economic Development (formerly Ministry of Commerce), various Ministers and the Ombudsman since 1996. Over this time the Crown has clearly and consistently outlined its stance to you regarding these applications and your compensation claim for a perceived economic loss following the transfer of ownership of pounamu from the Crown to Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu. The recent letters to you from Crown Minerals reiterate this stance.

I have however reconsidered the points raised in your letter but can observe nothing in the information that you have provided that would lead the Crown to reconsider its position on the matter of either the status of your applications and licence or the recognition of your compensation claim.

In closing, I would suggest that in order to confirm the date that the Greenstone Valley was vested with Ngai Tahu you contact the Office of Treaty Settlements, P O Box 919, Wellington.

Yours sincerely


Hon Harry Duynhoven
Associate Minister of Energy

cc: Hon Damien O'Connor
Parliament Buildings, Wellington