



AF/CS/03/03

11 December 2012

David Hammond  
Chief Executive  
Thames-Coromandel District Council  
Private Bag  
THAMES 3540

Dear David

### **Moanataiari Subdivision**

I write to confirm the outcome of the Moanataiari Governance Group meeting held on 5th December 2012 as it relates to the Ministry for the Environment and the Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund.

The Group resolved to adopt a remediation option 'Non-Physical Works'. The main emphasis of this option is an awareness programme with the possibility of some cover material in affected areas such as block 2. TCDC considers that this option could be adopted for the wider Peninsula.

The Ministry does not agree that this is the best course of action for Moanataiari. The Ministry voted against the recommendation.

In the Ministry's view:

- The cost benefit analysis contained in the report is overly simplistic for a site of this complexity and magnitude. It has been written and presented with a preferred outcome in mind and is not objective.
- The health risks and concerns outlined in the Ministry of Health's letter to TCDC dated 26th November 2012 have not been adequately addressed.
- A detailed remedial action plan that demonstrated that the risks posed to the Moanataiari community were to be adequately addressed was not available.
- The course of action being adopted may not result in an enduring framework for Moanataiari.

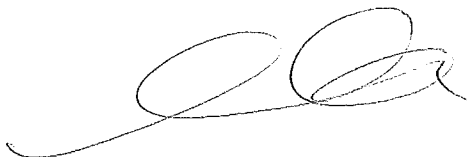
The Ministry acknowledges that ultimate decision making and accountability lies with TCDC.

The Governance Group and Steering Committee were established for the site investigation and remediation planning phases of the project as outlined in the Deed of Funding. Effectively, the decision of the 5th December sees a natural conclusion to these phases and there is no ongoing requirement for the Governance Group or the Steering Committee to exist. The Ministry therefore provides notice, under clause 43 of Deed of Funding 20127 for the Moanataiari Subdivision Investigation, Background Assessment and Remediation Planning, that this Deed will be terminated on 14 January 2013. No funding will be provided under Deed 20127 for work completed after that date.

Any Crown funding for the remediation phase from the Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund would need to be by way of an application from the Waikato Regional Council. The Ministry would need to consider health risks and concerns when evaluating future funding requests for remediation.

During the Governance Group meeting, Mayor Leach raised some technical concerns regarding National Environmental Standards. We will be happy to receive a letter from TCDC or WRC outlining the concerns.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Mendonça', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Mike Mendonça  
**Director, Operations**