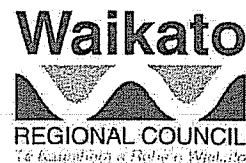


1 April 2013



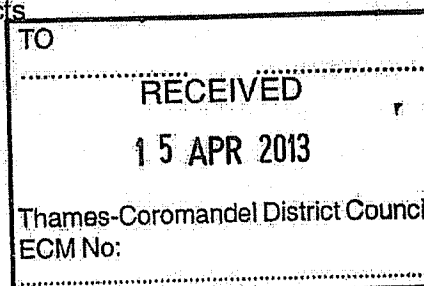
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Dear Sam

### Selected Land Use Register and Moanataiari

Thank you for your letter of 3 April 2013 regarding the current classification of the Moanataiari Subdivision on the regional Selected Land Use Register under the HAIL activity E7 (2011), which is:

*"Mining industries (excluding gravel extraction) including exposure of faces or release of groundwater containing hazardous contaminants, or the storage of hazardous wastes **including** waste dumps or dam tailings".*

The Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) was developed by the Ministry for the Environment and has regulatory significance under the National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health.

More information can be found at:

[http://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2011/0361/latest/whole.html?search=ts regulation contaminants resel&p=1#DLM4052203](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2011/0361/latest/whole.html?search=ts%20regulation%20contaminants%20resel&p=1#DLM4052203)

The HAIL is a compilation of activities and industries that are considered likely to cause land contamination resulting from hazardous substance use, storage or disposal. The HAIL has grouped similar industries together which typically use or store hazardous substances that could cause contamination if these substances escaped from safe storage, were disposed of on the site, or were lost to the environment through their use. The HAIL is intended to identify most situations in New Zealand where hazardous substances could cause, and in many cases have caused, land contamination.

More information about the HAIL can be found at:

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/hazardous/contaminated/hazardous-activities-industries-list.html>

Our assessment is that the HAIL activity E7 is an appropriate descriptor because this category includes waste dumps associated with mining. Several investigation documents (e.g. [http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/PageFiles/21196/EWDOCS\\_n1742947\\_v1\\_Moanataiari\\_Subdivision\\_Thames\\_Scoping\\_Report\\_-\\_Historical\\_Contamination\\_Review.pdf](http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/PageFiles/21196/EWDOCS_n1742947_v1_Moanataiari_Subdivision_Thames_Scoping_Report_-_Historical_Contamination_Review.pdf)) produced for the area clearly state that the area was built up using mine tailings, mullock and other wastes. For example, quotes from this Scoping Report include: "The land was originally created by early miners

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spoil disposal" (TCDC, 1997), "From 1867, with the establishment of the Thames goldfield, the flattish areas around the mouths of the Kuranui, Moanataiari and Waitotahi creeks became important as battery sites... while some of the waste, mullock (un-mineralised quartz and rock) and tailings (treated quartz ore) went back into the mine as back-fill, a huge amount ended on the present-day Moanataiari flat. Illustrations of this latter time show the batteries running their tailings and waste straight out the mudflats" (John Isdale, 2008). We would be interested to receive any documents or records your Council may hold that show otherwise.

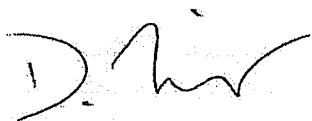
We do not agree that using an unspecified classification, for example, Category I "Any other land that has been subject to the intentional or accidental release of a hazardous substance in sufficient quantity that it could be a risk to human health or the environment" is accurate and informative enough to those interested in the Subdivision but unaware of its history.

We acknowledge that this is our technical assessment and you may want to take the matter of the HAIL classification system to the Ministry for the Environment.

We note that your Council is in the process of changing the entry on Moanataiari property LIMs (Land Information Memorandum) and that such statement will differ to that held on the regional Selected Land Use Register. The information entered on LIMs is the responsibility of Territorial Authorities; however, our advice is that LIM entry on Moanataiari property LIMs should refer to HAIL activity E7 as the regional Selected Land Use Register will continue to do.

As we discussed last year, the Moanataiari Subdivision is currently listed as one site on the regional Selected Land Use Register. There is a need to enter each property into the Register, now that property-specific reports are available, and notify individual landowners. We agreed that we would work jointly with your Council to inform the residents in that respect. We are now preparing this exercise, which I expect will be undertaken before the end of this financial year.

Yours sincerely



Dominique Noiton  
Acting Group Manager, Resource Information

Cc Mike Mendonça, Ministry for the Environment

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