Introduction

Name:

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Business name or organisation (if applicable):

Position title (if applicable):

Is this an individual submission or on behalf of a group or organisation?

Privacy of natural persons

Please indicate which group you most identify with or are involved in?

Privacy of natural persons

Please specify the group that you most identify with

Please indicate which type of group your submission represents.

Please specify the group or organisation that your submission is on behalf of.

Vision

Do you agree or disagree with the overall vision for the minerals and petroleum sector in New Zealand?

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

The part I agree with is that however we develop our minerals and petroleum sector that must be done in an environmentally and socially responsible way. Why I hold back with my full agreement is that the statement makes no mention of fossil fuels, that is those which exploit our natural resources but are not sustainable.

What is your vision for the minerals and petroleum sector in New Zealand?

They be developed with an eye to sustainability and the effects of any extraction processes on climate change.

How can New Zealand sustainably derive value from its petroleum and minerals resources?

Objectives for the minerals and petroleum sector

Objective for a sector that: "Responsibly delivers value for New Zealand (a) Supporting a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy (b) Supporting New Zealand's transition to a carbon neutral economy".

Agree

Why?

As long as our ultimate goal is consistency with general government policy and zero carbon emissions by 2050 according to the Paris Accord I agree.

Objective for a sector that: "Is productive and innovative".

Agree

Why?

Continuing on from above, I believe that our overall strategy must fit within the framework of the world's current climate emergency.

Objective for a sector that: "Is effectively regulated".

Agree

Why?

We need to change the way we do things with the current climate emergency in mind. It is no longer acceptable to carry on with "business as usual".

Are there any other objectives for the minerals and petroleum sector that you would like us to consider in the strategy?

Any objectives need to fit in with our long-term climate change strategies

Guiding principles

Principle: The environment, ecosystems, and biodiversity are respected now and in the long term.

Agree

Why?

I would go much further that merely saying "respected" which could easily be misinterpreted as "saying a little prayer and carrying on as usual".

Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.

Strongly agree

Why?

Again I prefer the word "protected" to "respected".

Principle: Support the transition to a carbon neutral economy by 2050.

Strongly agree

Why?

Indeed this is the only way to give our Earth a chance of existing beyond this century.

Principle: The impact on people, communities and regions are managed in a just and inclusive way.

Strongly agree

Why?

Principle: Support a circular economy by meeting resource needs through resource efficiency, recycling and reuse.

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

I'm not sure what is meant by a "circular" economy. As long as our goal is the transition to a zero carbon economy that is fine. Putting for instance property rights of miners ahead of the transition to zero carbon goal is not in line with our main goal.

Principle: Actions taken within the mineral and petroleum sector should align with the strategic direction of other related sectors and Government strategies.

Agree

Why?

Again I submit the proviso that our goal must be zero carbon by 2050. Renewal and expansion of existing oil drilling licenses does not conform with that ultimate goal.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following principles for the Crown? Principle: The Crown honours its duty towards Māori as a Treaty partner, adheres to the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and its duty to meet settlement commitments.

Strongly agree

Why?

Principle: The Crown receives a fair financial return for its minerals and petroleum.

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

Sure I agree (why not?) but only if that is not achieved at the cost of environmental degradation or the exploitation of non-renewable resources.

Principle: The Crown regulates in a way that is fair, transparent, reasonable and proportionate.

Strongly agree

Why?

Principle: The Crown honours the rights of current permit holders to continue production or exploration activities under existing permits.

Strongly disagree

Why?

Many of those permits are not in alignment with our commitment to a zero carbon future. No form of this principle is valid without the consideration of the environmental impact of production and exploration activities. For instance, again, we should not allow the renewal and expansion of oil drilling licenses while imposing a ban on new oil drilling.

Principle: The Crown makes policy decisions based on the best evidence, and accounting for the foreseeable need for minerals and petroleum, both now and for future generations.

Agree

Why?

Agreement is not stronger because of the somewhat wishy-washy terminology used. I'd like to see stronger statements, such as: "The destructive oil industry should not be allowed to continue. Instead we need to work towards a plan that focusses on the rapid phase-out of fossil fuel extraction."

Principle: The Crown proactively engages and consults with relevant stakeholders and decisions are communicated in a clear and transparent way.

Agree

Why?

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following principles for Industry? Principle: Pursue continuous improvements in health and safety.

Agree

Why?

Principle: Strive to implement industry best practice in operations.

Agree

Why?

Principle: Seek innovative ways to improve the resource efficiency of extraction operations; and minimise the negative impacts of these operations.

Agree

Why?

If the "negative impacts" referred to include a degradation of our environment or the continued use of fossil fuels then please change my answer to "strongly disagree". Our ultimate goal should be to phase out fossil fuels (including natural gas), starting with no new coal mines or oil and gas wells. New gas wells or infrastructure would be used for decades and be a backward step in the direction of a zero carbon future.

Principle: Engage with stakeholders and implement management systems to understand and manage impacts, and realise opportunities for redress where needed.

Agree

Why?

Are there any other principles you would like us to consider in the strategy?

Action areas intro

Action Area: Modernising the Crown Minerals Act

Agree

Why?

The Act needs to be written with both the phase-out of fossil fuels (non-renewable energy sources) and a zero carbon future in mind.

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

The Act needs to be written with both the phase-out of fossil fuels (non-renewable energy sources) and a zero carbon future in mind.

Action Area: Securing affordable resources to meet our minerals and energy needs

Agree

Why?

The resources we focus on must be renewable and sustainable.

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

The resources we focus on must be renewable and sustainable.

Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership

Agree

Why?

Any extraction of minerals should only happen with greater input by iwi and hapu and with minimal environmental impact.

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Any extraction of minerals should only happen with greater input by iwi and hapu and with minimal environmental impact.

Action Area: Improving stakeholder and community engagement

Agree

Why?

Our economy regarding all stakeholders requires a strategy of its own

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Our economy regarding all stakeholders requires a strategy of its own.

Action Area: Improving industry compliance

Strongly agree

Why?

Our environment is far too important to be neglected or ignored. Industry must come to the party when it comes to cleaning up our act.

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Our environment is far too important to be neglected or ignored. Industry must come to the party when it comes to cleaning up our act.

Action Area: Research and investment in better mining and resource use

Agree

Why?

At the same time processes like fracking need to be explicitly banned since they represent the most destructive of techniques.

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

Introduce the phase out of environmentally destructive techniques such as fracking.

Are there any other action areas you would like us to consider as part of advancing this Strategy?

All is fine but at the end of the day we need to ensure that our chief goal - the rapid phase-out of fossil fuel extraction - is met. That means no more permits or permit extensions for deep-sea oil drilling and fracking. Our ultimate goal should be a just transition to a carbon-free future.

Other

Are there any other comments you would like to make about the "Minerals and Petroleum Strategy for Aotearoa New Zealand: 2019-2029"?

I support the climate declaration that says: "Reduce the extraction and burning of fossil fuels to 50% by 2025 and to zero by 2030." Those are realisable goals as long

as we 1/ prevent all new and expanded coal mines and coal-burning plants and 2/ end deep-sea oil exploration and fracking for oil and gas.

If you wish to, attach a document to this submission.

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