

Introduction

Name:

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Business name or organisation (if applicable):

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Position title (if applicable):

Chair

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

Behalf of group or organisation

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

Please specify the group that you most identify with

Please indicate which type of group your submission represents.

Non-governmental Organisation

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?

Agree

Why?

It is important that the aspect of "environmentally and socially responsible" be integrated into the vision

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

That it proceed with regard to communities, hapu and the environment.

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

Yes, with respect to mineral, but perhaps not with respect to petroleum. We know that the burning of petroleum for energy is not sustainable. Another environmentally benign use of petroleum might make it more sustainable, but I can't think of one. Fertiliser manufacture is similarly unsustainable.

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?

We agree, but with the proviso that the environment and biodiversity are protected

Objective for a sector that: “Is productive and innovative”.

Disagree

Why?

There would be no mining/drilling activity if it weren't productive, so that is a "given". Similarly for innovative. These are industry concerns and not necessarily that of the government. The government's role is to protect the people and the environment from unsustainable and harmful practices and projects promoted by industry. The only concern for government with regards to productivity is with respect to royalty income, which is in clear conflict-of-interest with its regulatory role. The creation of jobs is an illusion, since mining and oil extraction are usually unsustainable over more than a single working career.

Objective for a sector that: “Is effectively regulated”.

Strongly agree

Why?

Quite right. This is government's role. History shows that without it, pollution, labour excesses and disregard for communities and environment would be commonplace. The government is the people's collective hand in limiting the excesses of organisations driven only by profit motive.

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

It is important that mining and oil exploration/development have primary regard to communities, hapu and the environment; regard on a par with the profit motive.

Guiding principles

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

Strongly agree

Why?

This should go farther; these should be PROTECTED, not just respected. We can respect the environment and turn our backs on it at the same time.

Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.

Strongly agree

Why?

Maori are an important part of our society who have an enduring spiritual connection to the land.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

We have a responsibility to future generations to limit climate change.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

We are a nation of people, not shareholders and business clients. Industry should serve in the interests of the people, not the other way around.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

We need to move from an extractive economy to a sustainable economy, otherwise there is no future economy. Now is the time to start.

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

Strongly agree

Why?

Minerals and petroleum extracted from the earth are then not there for future generations to benefit from. We need to be thoughtful about extraction and not allow it just because it can make money and provide a few short term jobs. This land belongs to all of us.

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?

The treaty is our platform to honour and respect the rights of Maori. We must not disenfranchise these members of our society.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

It depends upon the project and the context. In most cases "yes". In other cases, when it is in the national interest, the answer may be "no". For example, it may be important for the crown to accept a lower royalty in order to keep a domestic, but environmentally appropriate steel-making industry.

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

History of resource development in New Zealand has a number of cases of well run, environmentally sensitive developments, but there are many cases of flagrant pollution, unsafe working conditions and disregard to environmental and social concerns. The Crown and councils who administer the RMA have a mixed record.

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

Agree

Why?

It is important to economic activity that the Crown's commitments be adhered to. It is also important that resource extraction be appropriate for the communities and environment, which can have changing needs. These need to be balanced.

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?

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?

This is simply good business practice and should be part of every company's code of ethics.

Principle: Strive to implement industry best practice in operations.

Agree

Why?

This is simply good business practice

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

Agree

Why?

This is simply good business practice and should be part of every company's code of conduct

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

Agree

Why?

This is simply good business practice

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

Considering the damage that the burning of fossil fuel is doing to our environment, it is important that coal and oil&gas development be phased out in the coming years.

There should be a guiding principle that states that these sources of energy are phased out over the next decade (i.e., by 2030).

Action areas intro

Action Area: Modernising the Crown Minerals Act

Agree

Why?

After nearly 30 years, it is time for an update.

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

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

It is important that the Crown keep a long term view of the strategic importance of certain resources. Care should be given to make sure there are resources left for future generations.

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

Phasing out of coal and oil&gas production by 2030.

Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership

Strongly agree

Why?

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

Action Area: Improving stakeholder and community engagement

Strongly agree

Why?

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

Action Area: Improving industry compliance

Strongly agree

Why?

Pike River

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

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

Neither agree nor disagree

Why?

Better resource use and re-use is worth government research investment. Better mining and processing is better supported by industry research. NZ taxpayers should not subsidise industry research.

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

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

Phasing out coal extraction and new oil and gas exploration by 2030.

Other

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

This strategy needs to fit with the national strategy of zero net emissions by 2050. This means that there needs to be a strategy for the phasing out of fossil fuel extraction. The strategy should set a goal of ending coal extraction and on-shore oil & gas exploration by 2030.

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

Use and release of information

We intend to upload submissions to our website at www.mbie.govt.nz. Can we include your submission on the website?

Yes

Can we include your name?

Yes

Can we include your email address?

Yes

Can we include your business name or organisation?

Yes

Can we include your position title?

Yes

Can we include the group you most identify with (if submitting as an individual)?

Can we include the group your submission represents (if submitting on behalf of a group or organisation)?

Yes

If there are any other parts to your submission that you do not want public on the website please note them below:

no.

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If there is information in your submission that you wish to remain confidential, please note them below:

none