

# ROAD METALS

## Introduction

Road Metals is one of New Zealand's largest aggregate processing companies, operating throughout the country. Road Metals has been operating for more than 60 years and employs nearly 200 staff.

Road Metals appreciates the opportunity to submit on the Draft Critical Mineral List for New Zealand.

## Submission

Road Metals supports the inclusion of sand and aggregate in Critical Minerals List.

Sand and aggregate are essential components in the provision of development, housing and infrastructure including the establishment of renewable energy.

This is not a resource which can be sourced from overseas given logistical and cost constraints. Therefore, sources of this important resource in New Zealand need to be identified, protected and managed to ensure ongoing supply.

Over time, regulation around access to this resource has become increasingly complex, drawn out and costly, generally resulting in significant delays between applying for consents and receiving approval. This adds significant costs to developments, housing and provision of infrastructure as well as creating delays and causing uncertainty of supply.

The Canterbury earthquakes and increase in extreme weather events driven by climate change have highlighted the importance of ready access to sand and aggregate.

It is essential that New Zealand be in a position whereby it can provide cost effective aggregate supply for development and can respond to increased aggregate supply requirements in a very short timeframe.

A simpler form of regulation of sand and aggregate will reduce uncertainty and shorten regulatory timeframes leading to increased supply and reduced costs which will feed through into speeding up and reducing costs of development, housing and infrastructure. The inclusion of sand and aggregate on the Critical Minerals List is a very important first step in this process.

Rosie Flynn, Quarry Environmental Planner

Road Metals Co Ltd