

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER

IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act 1991 ("**RMA**")

AND

IN THE MATTER

of a Notice of Requirement to designate the
Ruakiwi Reservoir Alteration to Designation.

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF CAROL HENRY DATED:

19 December 2025

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This statement of evidence is submitted on behalf of Ngaati Wairere engaged in the Ruakiwi Reservoir project. Prior to 1863 Ngaati Wairere hapuu were once a thriving and prosperous community. Many of their descendants continue to occupy the ancestral lands of Kirikiriroa today.

1.2 The Waikato River is intrinsic to Wairere identity, and through the life sustaining values of water the construction of the reservoir at the proposed site on Ruakiwi Rd is critical to sustaining the health and wellbeing of all who reside in Kirikiriroa, Hamilton.

2. INTRODUCTION

Qualifications and Experience

2.1 My name is Carol Henry. I am here today representing Ngaati Wairere for the proposed designation conditions. I am an accredited RMA Commissioner. I hold Diplomas in, Iwi Environmental Management, and the Advancement of Maori Opportunity (AMO) with Te Waananga o Aotearoa.

2.2 I am a senior leader of Ngaati Wairere iwi and our marae of Hukanui and located on the rural outskirts of Kirikiriroa. I also represent Ngaati Wairere on the Future Proof growth strategy for the Waikato region, and I oversee a number of Fast Track development projects occurring on the periphery of Hamilton City.

Mana Whenua engagement with the Requiring Authority and the proposed designation conditions

2.3 Ngaati Wairere has engaged with the Requiring Authority commencing in January 2024 with the engagement activities comprising two site visits and detailed assessments of the proposed reservoir area and additional hui and discussions held both in person and online to gather inputs and address concerns.

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|------------|---|
| 18 12 2023 | Site visit - to the Ruakiwi site proposed as the site for the new IAF reservoir |
| 25 06 2025 | Site visit - to the Ruakiwi Reservoir site to visualise the structure extend and scope of project with the key parameters pegged out by the project surveyors & review the tree plans |
| 24 09 2025 | Monthly hui - update provided on the NoR and the Reserves act process as public consultation opened on 23 Sept 2025 |
| 29 10 2025 | Monthly hui - reviewed the public consultations submissions analysis and went over the draft consent conditions |
| 11 11 2025 | Hui to review and discuss the draft consent conditions and associated management plans |
| 3 12 2025 | Monthly hui - met to discuss the revised draft consent conditions |

2.4 A Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) was prepared by myself on behalf of Ngaati Wairere and was included in the Notice of Requirement documentation lodged with Council on 22 August 2025.

2.5 The CIA is an affirmation of Ngaati Wairere identity as a customary and historical authority over our ancestral lands of Kirikiriroa as mana whenua and ahikaa, the continuous occupation of Kirikiriroa by hapuu of Ngaati Wairere prior to 1863. Ngaati Wairere endorsed the reservoir project on 17 August 2024.

3. MATTERS OF SIGNIFICANCE

3.1 Ngaati Wairere see that the approval of these proposed designation conditions in their current form would further support our mana whenua aspirations in the overall Ruakiwi Reservoir project.

3.2 Ngaati Wairere is confident that these proposed conditions from the Requiring Authority upholds Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa o Waikato and supports our ability to exercise Kaitiakitanga in the area of the proposed project.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 To conclude, Ngaati Wairere support and endorse the proposed designation conditions from the Requiring Authority as attached to the evidence of Mr Chris Dawson, dated 19 December 2025.

Dated: 19 December 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Carol Henry', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Carol Henry

Ngaati Wairere representative