

IN THE MATTER OF The Treaty of
Waitangi Act 1975

AND

IN THE MATTER OF Claims by
HUHURERE
TUKUKINO and
OTHERS known
as the HAURAKI
CLAIMS

**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF KEMARA TUKUKINO ON
BEHALF OF THE CLAIMANTS**

1. My name is Kemara Pirimona Tukukino, like many others at this hearing I am supposed to have retired. I am the eldest son of the claimant in this matter and have previously given evidence before the Tribunal.
2. I would like to refer to several significant events, which effected the live of my father, his family and myself.

3. The first refers to the results following the strategies which Mackay used on Tukukino Ahitacawa (my fathers great grandfather) to disenfranchise him of his land and more importantly his mana. Obviously that wrongdoing had a consequential effect on my father's families land interests. So that the only substantial interests in Maori land to the Tukukino whanau, are restricted to Komata and Te Pura.
4. At a previous hearing my Uncle Riki Rakena recognised the effect of Tukukino's isolation, as this names does not appear on other Ngati Tamatera land interests in the Hauraki rohe, and this is attributable to Mackay's response to Tukukino not agreeing to sell his land.
5. In Komata we have interests in family farm of some hundred or so acres. This land is shared with other members of our fathers' whanau and already it is being affected by the process of fragmentation through succession.
6. The land at Te Pura consists of a small section with a cottage and wharemoae, which serves as our papakainga.
7. We also have share in a large block of land called Te Pura no. 5 which is considered to be prime residential land. This interest in terms of the Tukukino whanau is part of a larger block which my father has been wanting to develop for many years, the other share holders are all Ngati Tamatera whanau.
8. Unfortunately, this block is landlocked. For over 40 years prior to his passing my father and other trustees for the block have been trying to find ways to gain access. A proposed access together with a subdivision plan of some 120 building sections has been drawn up but the cost of development ie. in excess of 1 million dollars is too prohibitive for the Trust to consider at this time. If access were

practicable then we could consider other options such as forestry and heritage protection.

9. These situations serve to highlight again common problems effecting Maori land. However, the problems in Hauraki are worsened by the fact that only a very small amount of land is available for Hauraki Maori.
10. As a new Trustee member for Te Puru No. 5, I have inherited the above problem.
11. As the past Chief Registrar for the Maori Land Court I can say that the problem of landlocked land and fragmentation have long been a problem in the administration of Maori land and will continue to be so for many years.
12. In 1952 Edwin Te Moananui and myself were contemporaries who both passed UE, Edwin at Paeroa and myself at Thames. Like everyone else pursuing a career we had to leave the district, and Hamilton and Social Security was our posting. Neither of us could speak Maori though we did learn a little at our hostel at Te Rahui. Our parents did not encourage us to learn Te Reo and indeed insisted that we should concentrate on our English in order to further our studies both at secondary school and for our future education and employment.
13. Although I have had a long association with Maori groups, Marae and Tribal Committees I consider my knowledge of Te Reo to be fairly basic.
14. I note also that most of our contemporaries are now deceased or living out of the area so that effectively almost 2 or 3 generations of Maori speakers who may have been available to Hauraki are now lost. I feel

speakers who may have been available to Hauraki are now lost. I feel there is an urgent need to establish a permanent whare wananga in Hauraki to re-instil and reinforce tikanga in our rohe.

15. To my mind I feel that Hauraki could again be the food basket for Auckland. In order to achieve this we need land and expertise. We need to co-ordinate our resources and pool whatever putea monies are derived from fishing and other sources, but most of all we need unity amongst the Hauraki iwi.
16. I also agree that the commercial arm of any future settlement should be kept separate from the cultural responsibilities which are currently dealt with by the Hauraki Maori Trust Board.
17. It is important that the impetus which we have gained from these hearings should not be lost, and it may be that the Board might be required to look again at the priorities set in our current strategic plan.
18. I would remind us all of the pressures to which the kaumatua and kuia have been subjected to over the past 12 months. They have worked hard through this long process. This is no easy task for our elders, and their efforts are not without consequences upon their health and well-being. Still the process is not over yet.
19. Finally, I would like to thank nga iwi whanui of Hauraki for the contributions they have made in support of this claim. I'm sure my father and all those of our tupuna who have passed on would have been pleased with the efforts which we have all made. Throughout these hearings there has been a strong feeling of Manaaki and Aroha and I trust that this unity and strength amongst Hauraki Iwi will continue in the future.