

IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

Wai 2700

CONCERNING

the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

AND

the Mana Wāhine Kaupapa
Inquiry

**MEMORANDUM-DIRECTIONS OF THE CHAIRPERSON INITIATING
THE MANA WĀHINE KAUPAPA INQUIRY**

20 December 2018

Introduction

1. The purpose of this memorandum-directions is to formally initiate the Wai 2700 Mana Wāhine Kaupapa Inquiry and to appoint a presiding officer to conduct the inquiry.

Preliminary filing

2. On 13 March 2018, I convened a judicial conference to hear from parties on claims concerning mana wāhine issues (Wai 2700, #2.5.1).
3. Following the judicial conference, I directed parties to file comprehensive submissions on matters including funding, filing amended statements of claim and new statements of claim, research and issues that should be given priority (Wai 2700, #2.5.3).
4. On 9 July 2018, I directed parties to file any new statements of claim and amended statements of claim, along with any submissions addressing the eligibility of the claim(s) to participate in this inquiry by 31 August 2018. The Crown was to file their response by 28 September 2018 (Wai 2700, #2.5.6). Following various extension requests, these dates were later extended to 21 September 2018 and 19 October 2018 respectively (Wai 2700, #2.5.7).

Initiating an inquiry into claims concerning mana wāhine

5. Considering the great interest in holding an inquiry concerning mana wāhine, I now formally initiate the Wai 2700 Mana Wāhine Kaupapa Inquiry.
6. Pursuant to clause 5(1)(a)(ii) of the Second Schedule to the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975, I now appoint Judge Sarah Reeves, a judge of the Māori Land Court, as presiding officer for the kaupapa inquiry into claims concerning mana wāhine issues. Further members will be appointed to this inquiry panel shortly.
7. The presiding officer will issue memorandum-directions on the next steps for the inquiry in due course.

The Registrar is to send a copy of this direction to counsel for the claimants, Crown counsel and all those on the distribution list for Wai 2700, the Mana Wāhine Kaupapa Inquiry.

DATED at Gisborne this 20th day of December 2018



Chief Judge W W Isaac
Chairperson

WAITANGI TRIBUNAL