
KEI MUA I TE AROARO O TE RŌPŪ WHAKAMANA I
TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

BEFORE THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

WAI 3325

WAI 3414

IN THE MATTER OF The Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

AND

IN THE MATTER OF The Climate Change Priority Inquiry

AND

IN THE MATTER OF A claim by Anthony Olsen on behalf of the Matiti Māori Committee that the Crown is acting in breach of Treaty of Waitangi obligations towards Māori because of the New Zealand Government failing to implement adequate policies to address the threats posed by global climate change

SUPPLEMENTARY BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF ANTHONY
WHARERAUPO OLSEN

25 October 2024

WOODWARD LAW OFFICE

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E TE KAIWHAKAWĀ, TĒNĀ KOE.

Introduction

1. My name is Anthony Whareraupo Olsen of Timaru, Senior Environmental and Maturanga Advisor. I am the claimant in the Wai 3414 claim on behalf of the Matiti Māori Committee.
2. I have previously filed a brief of evidence on behalf of my claim dated 22 October 2024.
3. Immediately after submitting my brief of evidence, an initiative concerning native tree forestation came to my attention. This supplementary brief provides a reference to the initiative *‘Recloaking Papatūānuku*.

Recloaking Papatūānuku.

4. *Recloaking Papatūānuku* is a proposal for carbon sequestration, biodiversity enhancement, improving disaster resilience and support for Aotearoa New Zealand climate response. A program that offers investment in native forestry combined with economic incentive would have the benefit of reducing our reliance on foreign offsets to meet NDC commitments, estimated by Treasury to be between \$3-24 billion.¹
5. The program for *Recloaking Papatūānuku* was developed by Pure Advantage in consultation with Māori leadership including with NZ Māori Council. It was supported on the basis that native reforestation would have advantages of restoring mauri and engage Māori communities in the wellbeing of land and atmosphere, through investment in long term resilience in line with kaitiakitanga obligations. Importantly it could be applied to landlocked Māori land, thus offering a development opportunity that has been precluded for Māori landowners.
6. *Recloaking Papatūānuku* was designed as of primary interest to private land owners including Māori land owners, trusts and incorporations. With the possibility of planting 2 million hectares in native reforestation over 30 years, it was calculated as 15 million t CO₂ between 2024-2100 (or 17.1 mt CO₂/yr).² Native reforestation was envisaged as complementary to pine forestry. This information corroborates my evidence that New

¹ Treasury. 2023 ‘Ngā Kōrero Āhuarangi Me Te Ōhanga: Climate Economic and Fiscal Assessment 2023’.
<https://www.treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2023-04/cefa23.pdf>

² Pure Advantage. 2023. ‘Recloaking Papatūānuku. Briefing for The Prime Minister and incoming Ministers’.
<https://pureadvantage.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Briefing-for-Incoming-Ministers-RP.pdf>

Zealand's native forests provide some of the highest sequestration in the world. Although slower growing, native trees sequester more carbon in the long term.³

7. This proposal was designed with a number of scenarios, from full inclusion in the ETS supported by government loans to landowners, a hybrid model combining landowner costs with Crown loans, and non ETS inclusion with the Crown funding reforestation in return for receiving the carbon credits.

Ngā korero kati, relevance to Treaty claim

8. *Recloaking Papatūānuku* is an example of a climate change mitigation initiative put before government for investment in the beneficial use of Māori land, as well as other private (or public) land. There has been no government uptake of this initiative. I am informed anecdotally of collaborations by landowners to seek investment in native reforestation, eg. Mana Taiao Tairāwhiti.⁴
9. Similarly, a \$30 million fund for Māori climate change work was negotiated with MfE by Iwi leaders climate change unit in 2023. The fund was withdrawn. Māori communities, NZMC and Māori organizations are strongly positioned for mitigation and adaptation initiatives. Crown investment is needed to enable tikanga based climate change responses consistent with intergenerational obligations.
10. This is another example of the Government failing to support measures to address climate change which are put forward by Maori based on their own Mātauranga and Tikanga. This is disappointing as these measures are generally put forward by Maori in their roles as kaitiaki of the natural environment of Aotearoa. I believe that this is in breach of the Crown's obligations under Te Tiriti to not recognise and support these tikanga based roles of Maori in dealing with climate change.

Dated this 25th day of October 2024



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ANTHONY WHARERAUPO OLSEN

³ <https://www.pnas.org/doi/full/10.1073/pnas.0901970106>

⁴ 'Māori have a unique opportunity to ...restore indigenous ecosystems while supporting indigenous peoples to thrive on our traditional lands and waters'. <https://manataiao.wordpress.com/recloaking-papatuanuku/>