

**IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL**

**Wai 2700**

**Wai 1504**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

the Mana Wāhine Kaupapa Inquiry

**BY**

Mihirawhiti Searancke, Renee  
Hinerangi Searancke, Doreen  
Hineman Richards, Kingi Tuheka  
Hetet, Boyce Te Wharemaru  
Ihakara II Taylor, and Sharon  
Bettina Searancke Rakena, and  
others

---

**MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FILING BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF  
MIHIRAWITI SEARANCKE**

**Dated: 12 February 2026**

---

**Phoenix Law Limited**  
Barristers and Solicitors  
200 Willis Street  
PO Box 27400  
Marion Square  
Wellington 6141  
**Phone:** (04) 384 1304  
**Email:** [mason@phoenixlaw.expert](mailto:mason@phoenixlaw.expert)  
**And:** [boatwright@phoenixlaw.expert](mailto:boatwright@phoenixlaw.expert)  
**Counsel Acting:** Janet Mason  
**Counsel Assisting:** Arabela Boatwright

**RECEIVED**

Waitangi Tribunal

**12 Feb 26**

Ministry of Justice  
WELLINGTON

**MAY IT PLEASE THE TRIBUNAL**

1. This Memorandum of Counsel (“MoC”):
  - a. is filed on behalf of Mihirawhiti Searancke, Renee Hinerangi Searancke, Doreen Hinemania Richards, Kingi Tuheka Hetet, Boyce Te Wharemaru Ihakara II Taylor, and Sharon Bettina Searancke Rakena, and others (“the Claimants”); and
  - b. files the Brief of Evidence (“BoE”) of Mihirawhiti Searancke, dated 12 February 2026.
  
2. In Memorandum Directions dated 15 December 2025, Presiding Officer Judge Reeves directed all BoEs and accompanying written summaries to be filed by 12 February 2026.<sup>1</sup>
  
3. As the Claimants’ evidence addresses issues relating to the Rangatiratanga Pou of the Inquiry, they have indicated a preference to present at Hearing Two in Whanganui, subject to the hearing plan and final confirmations of the Tribunal.

**Dated: 12 February 2026**



---

**Janet Mason**  
**Counsel Acting**



---

**Arabela Boatwright**  
**Counsel Assisting**

---

<sup>1</sup> Wai 2700, #2.6.013(a).