

**UNDER** The Resource Management Act 1991

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of an application for resource consents for Project  
Next Generation by Port Otago Limited

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**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of the submission lodged by Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka  
Ki Puketeraki

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**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF  
HINERANGI HEATH  
ON BEHALF OF KĀTI HUIRAPA RŪNAKA KI PUKETERAKI**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### Hinerangi Heath

- 1.1 I have had a long association with Puketeraki/Karitane visiting and living in Karitane at various stages of my life. Over the years I have fished and gathered kaimoana from around Huriawa Peninsula. I have seen many changes in relation to the coastal environment, some being man made and others natural changes.
- 1.2 I have a keen interest and passion in traditional recreational activities. In the past two years I have been heavily involved in the resurgence of waka amo (paddling). Our ancestors had a long history with the coast and the river, and other than walking, waka was their only means of travel. For centuries they used waka to travel between Puketeraki and Otakou.
- 1.3 Since the introduction of other methods of travel in the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century waka have virtually disappeared. The Rūnaka have recently completed the building of a waka amo and have made a further commitment to support the development and growth of this activity.
- 1.4 A strategic direction of the Rūnaka is to promote and encourage involvement of young people (rangatahi) in waka amo, and this activity is achieving this goal. This is a unique initiative to reconnect rangatahi with their traditional values and activities.
- 1.5 Karitane is now becoming known for our waka amo and as such has been included in the 25 years of Waka Amo celebrations next year with Tahitians leaving Karitane to paddle to Gisborne.

## **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONCERNS**

My concerns with Project Next Generation are:

- 2.1 Because Waka Amo uses the River and the bay area around Karitane, there is a fear that any increase in silt or sand build up could impact upon this traditional recreational activity.

**Thank You**