

18 Hakihea 2023

Hon Penny Simmonds  
Minister for the Environment  
New Zealand Parliament Buildings  
1 Museum Street, Pipitea  
Wellington 6011  
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Tēnā koe e te Minita,

On behalf of the Board and staff of Te Ohu Kaimoana, I wish to extend our congratulations to you on your appointments as Minister for the Environment, Tertiary Education and Skills, Disability Issues and for retaining your seat as the MP for Invercargill.

Accompanying this letter is a copy of our briefing to the new Government, outlining key priorities as identified by iwi and Te Ohu Kaimoana over the next three-year period. As the Minister for the Environment, the below priority most pertinent to your position is the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill of which we know you are familiar with and currently being briefed on in more detail. Below, and in our briefing, we have listed and provided more details on these key priorities.

1. Upholding the Deed of Settlement 1992
2. Progression of the Māori Fisheries Amendment Bill
3. Aquaculture settlements – satisfying settlement obligations, supporting iwi regional development and providing iwi with open ocean aquaculture opportunities
4. Remove the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill from the Parliament Order Paper, in favour of jointly designed initiatives for oceans health
5. Addressing the overlap of jurisdiction of government departments

Te Ohu Kaimoana is seeking and would welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill and how we can work together moving forward.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Ngā mihi,



**Pahia Turia**

Tumu Whakarae | Chair

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