

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF NEW ZEALAND
WELLINGTON REGISTRY**

**I TE KŌTI MATUA O AOTEAROA
TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA ROHE**

**CIV-2017-485-160; CIV-2017-485-214
CIV-2017-485-229; CIV-2017-485-248
CIV-2017-485-261; CIV-2017-485-273
CIV-2017-485-511**

GROUP N, STAGE 1(a)

UNDER the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai
Moana) Act 2011.

IN THE MATTER OF applications for orders recognising
Customary Marine Title and Protected
Customary rights

Continued...

Hearing On the papers

Counsel: (Listed below)

Minute: 2 April 2026

MINUTE OF GRICE J

[1] The Attorney-General filed a joint memorandum with Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Raukawa, Te Whānau Tima (Seymour) and Muaūpoko dated 30 March 2026. It indicates that due to complications in mapping the river mouths, the fixture to finalise PCR's (set for 28 and 29 April 2026) should be vacated, and instead the 29 April 2016 be used for a case management conference. That is directed accordingly. However, no new dates can be allocated at present for the PCR's as the time already allocated for September–October 2026 is for the CMT hearings. The limited time allocated already presents a challenge to deal with the CMT matters. Therefore, no new time can be allocated at present to finalise the PCR's.

[2] I also direct the following:

- (a) The parties will confer, including with Mr Moody, in relation to issues of PCR boundaries, extinguishment and the timetable required to finalise the PCRs.
- (b) The parties will file a joint memorandum (or memoranda) by 23 April 2026 updating the Court and seeking any further directions required for the CMT hearings commencing in September (noting that there have already been directions made in the minute of 27 February 2026). Counsel should consider the calling of the historical experts together (colloquially referred to as hot tubbing) to ensure that the issues arising are dealt with at the same time rather than sequentially. Counsel may give some consideration as to whether the evidence of any other group of experts might be dealt with in the same manner. These were issues raised in the earlier timetable direction.
- (c) 28 April 2026 PCR fixture is vacated.
- (d) 29 April 2026 fixture is scheduled as a case management conference to deal with both the CMT hearing and the PCR finalisation, with leave for counsel to attend by VMR.

Grice J

Counsel

T H Bennion and E A Whiley for Muaūpoko Tribal Authority Incorporated (Bennion Law, Wellington)

C F Finlayson KC for Rangitāne o Manawatū Settlement Trust (Innes Dean Lawyers, Palmerston North)

L I S Tohill and T P Talamaivao for Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa (Dixon & Co Lawyers, Auckland)

A K Irwin and O T H Neas for Ngāti Tamarangi hapū of Muaūpoko iwi (Te Aro Law Ltd, Wellington)

N R Coates for Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga (Kāhui Legal, Wellington)
B R Lyall for Patrick Seymour on behalf of Te Whānau Tima (Seymour) and Te Ahikā o Te Hapū Mateawa (Tu Pono Legal Limited, Rotorua)
A M Cameron and T N Ahu for Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust (Whāia Legal, Wellington)
E K Rongo for Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Inc (Oranganui Legal Limited, Paraparaumu)
D A Ward and D O Kleinsman for Attorney-General (Crown Law, Wellington)
F R Wedde for Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council, Wellington Regional Council and Kāpiti Coast District Council (Buddle Findlay, Wellington)