

Regional Hui – EPA and Māori Involvement

The Government is currently considering reforms to establish a fully formed Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The EPA currently operates as a statutory office within the Ministry for the Environment that administers applications of national significance under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). It is likely that a fully formed EPA will combine the national-level consenting functions under the RMA and the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

As part of this reform, the Government is seeking input into how Māori can best be involved in the fully formed EPA. The Ministry for the Environment and Te Puni Kōkiri wish to seek your views through regional hui about how Māori can best be involved in the processes and issues likely to come before the EPA. We are seeking input from those like yourself that are experienced in governance and management of organisations and authorities.

The hui will include brief presentations on the national-level consenting functions expected of the EPA and the current roles of Ngā Kaihautū Tikanga Taiao and Kaupapa Kura Taiao within Environmental Risk Management Authority. This will be followed by a discussion on how Māori may be best involved in a fully formed EPA. We will record notes from the hui and circulate these to participants for further comment and/or clarification, to inform our advice to government.

Agenda

- Mihi
- Presentation on the likely functions of the EPA and the current role of ERMA (15 mins)
- Presentation on current roles of Ngā Kaihautū Tikanga Taiao and Kaupapa Kura Taiao (15 mins)
- Discussion on how Māori may best be involved in a fully formed EPA (1 hour)
- Wrap of key issues and next steps (15 mins)
- Poroporoaki

Date and time:

Friday 19nd February. 10.30 am start followed by lunch.

Venue:

Te Puni Kōkiri House, 143 Lambton Quay, Wellington. Please RSVP by 16 February for catering purposes.

Travel:

The Ministry for the Environment will pay travel costs (flights, taxis) necessary to attend the hui. Please contact Fran Taito on 04-4397616 or fran.taito@mfe.govt.nz for further information.