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Paul Horgan
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Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu

Dear Paul

I am writing to you about the report by Vince Bidwell and Ned Norton entitled "Review of Nutrient and other Contamination Issues", which is a response to a request made by the Commissioners for the Central Plains Water Hearing. Their review refers to the evidence from Mr Tipler (7 September 2009) for the revised CPW scheme without storage, which is for an additional 30,000 ha of irrigated land within an area of 105,349 ha in the Central Plains.

In my opinion the report by Bidwell and Norton is an excellent summary of the state of knowledge and assessment of potential issues associated with the CPW scheme. The report is consistent with my earlier evidence submitted on behalf of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. It is also consistent with my updated evidence provided to you on 2 October 2009.

I will briefly describe some of the issues identified by Bidwell and Norton:

- 1) In my report of 2 October 2009 I dealt only with some of the 'in-lake' issues, not catchment nutrient loading which is considered in the report by Bidwell and Norton. I did not consider likely lags as a result of aquifer storage times, which will delay the effects of land use on nutrient loading to Te Waihora. Therefore, nutrient loading to Te Waihora is likely to increase even under the current land use, which will impact negatively upon water quality in the lake.