

IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

WAI 3325
WAI 3262

IN THE MATTER OF the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975
AND
IN THE MATTER OF the Climate Change Priority Inquiry (Wai 3325)
AND
IN THE MATTER OF a claim by Emily Tuhi-Ao Bailey on behalf of herself
 and Climate Justice Taranaki

BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF EMILY TUHI-AO BAILEY
Dated: 24 October 2024

**BENNION
LAW**

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INTRODUCTION

1. E te Rōpū Whakamana i Te Tiriti o Waitangi, me miki ka tika ki a koe. Ko koutou ngā kaihautu o tēnei kaupapa āwangawanga nei o te motu.

Ko Taranaki te maunga

Ko Waitotoroa ko Waitara ngā awa

Ko Ngāti Mutunga ko Te Atiawa ko Taranaki ngā iwi

Ko Otaraua te hapū

Ko Parihaka te papakāinga

Ko Emily Tuhi-Ao Felicity Bailey tōku ingoa

He taitamāhine ahau o Rongomai-ira (Rangi Leelum) Bailey

Ko Te Wharepouri te tupuna

2. I filed an affidavit dated 10 March 2023 in support of Climate Justice Taranaki's application for an urgent inquiry into climate change.¹
3. This brief of evidence provides further discussion on the Toitū Taranaki 2030 document attached to my affidavit.²

KO WAI AU?

4. I am a founding member of Climate Justice Taranaki, a group formed in 2010 that advocates for a sustainable Taranaki and the urgent phasing out of investments and dependence on all non-renewable energy and industrial agriculture.
5. Over the years, I have been involved with a number of community groups and have set out my extensive work in my affidavit.³

¹ Wai 3262, #A1.

² Wai 3262, #A1(a). Also available online: [Taranaki 2030 Just Transition Community Strategy \(climatejusticetaranaki.info\)](https://climatejusticetaranaki.info).

³ Wai 3262, A1 at [2] – [4].

6. I campaigned on the Wellington Inner-city Bypass project for many years, occupying a building, as well as planting four community gardens in the path of the new road.
7. I was also part of the Save Happy Valley campaign in the South Island on the proposed Solid Energy coal mine, helping at the occupation that ran for over three years and regional protests for about five years until the Te Urewera raids put a stop to that.
8. I have also been involved in the successful Weapons Conference and Petroleum Conference blockades which were organised by a coalition of groups from across Aotearoa. These actions led to both conferences being cancelled permanently and the offshore oil and gas ban under the previous government.
9. I am still involved in a coalition of groups working against the Minerals Conferences and organising Global Climate Strikes. I am often asked and put forward as a national spokesperson on climate issues.
10. More recently, I was involved in a Climate Strike which turned into a people's assembly in New Plymouth Council chambers on 27 September 2024. Rangatahi, mana whenua, grandparents, scientist, community members addressed Mayor Neil Holdom demanding urgent action to bring down emissions and support the ban on oil and gas exploration.
11. Rangatahi brought their concerns for the future and the lack of action by politicians. In a media release by Climate Justice Taranaki, we made the following call on the Government:⁴

“There is an unequivocal demand from our young people and civil society to take serious climate action. Yet this week, the coalition government introduced the Crown Minerals Amendment Bill to remove the 2018 ban on new oil and gas exploration beyond onshore Taranaki and allow access to Taranaki conservation land by miners. The New Plymouth mayor not only tows the government line but has been actively encouraging the removal of the ban, citing rising energy prices and importing of coal. The coalition government is also trying to fast track a whole lot of mining and energy projects that are not environmentally or

socially sustainable. Climate Strikers say this is irresponsible and a waste of time and precious resources.”

12. Climate Justice Taranaki have also been active in our response to the Fast-Track project list. The List contains almost 20 mining and quarrying projects, despite overwhelming objections from mana whenua, environmental organisations, prominent leaders, and in some cases against multiple court decisions.⁵
13. I am one of six iwi representatives for the Taranaki Regional Council, having been in this role since 2016. In this role I have sat on the policy, planning, consents and regulations committees.
14. I am currently the Chair of the Parihaka Papakāinga Trust.
15. This claim and evidence are provided on behalf of myself and Climate Justice Taranaki.

PARIHAKA HISTORY OF RESISTANCE

16. In preparing my evidence, it is only right for me to acknowledge the upcoming anniversary of the invasion of Parihaka.
17. Ruakere Hond captures the vision of our people aptly, “quite often, people see Parihaka as history, but for people of the community we see it as a living legacy.”⁶
18. We have great examples in our prophets Te Whiti and Tohu who worked on the land, producing food and forming a community of shared and collective action that was of benefit to everyone around them.
19. The people of Parihaka saw a paradigm shift with the arrival of pākehā and especially the New Zealand Company. Whenua used to be a place of connection – but pākehā saw it as a commodity.
20. The confiscation of our land was not just a taking of our land, but also a taking of our futures. It took away our ability to influence what takes place on our land.
21. The harmful colonial legacy of land theft is also where the roots of intensive dairying were seeded. Dairy farming is Aotearoa’s biggest climate polluter.

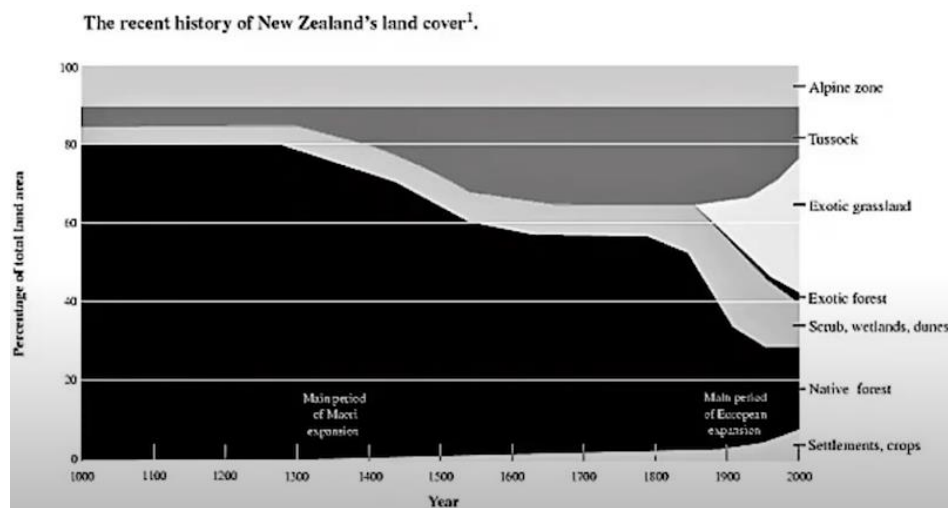
⁵ Climate Justice Taranaki, *Media Release: Climate Justice Taranaki rejects the Fast-Track list*, 07 October 2024. <https://climatejusticetaranaki.info/2024/10/07/media-release-climate-justice-taranaki-rejects-the-fast-track-list/>

⁶ Online discussion hosted by Aotearoa Climate Justice Network, “Remember Parihaka colonialism, dairy and climate change”, 3 November 2021. Available online: [Remember Parihaka colonialism, dairy and climate change 03 11 21](#)

22. When we talk about climate justice – it is justice on the land, justice among people, and justice for what happened in the past.
23. The concepts and targets discussed in Toitū Taranaki 2030 are not alien to Māori. These are values Parihaka used to live by – working together, avoiding waste, finding sustainable solutions, growing and fostering an economy. This legacy is what drove us to reconsider and create a different paradigm to what the Government is saying is the way to address the climate crisis.
24. What we are seeing now – quite blatantly – is a government with no regard for Taiao, let alone climate justice. It does not appear to care that our communities might be badly damaged, if not wiped out by climate change and it is actively taking measures that would hasten that result.
25. The Parihaka community have strongly resisted fossil fuel expansion on their lands. Examples of recent resistance efforts are attached as 'ETAB-01'.
26. Our vision is a world that values resource conservation and efficiency, sustainable energy, agriculture, transport and other systems that bring justice for the common people, future generations and Papatūānuku.

CLIMATE CRISIS AND COLONISATION

27. Colonisation and the climate crisis are inextricably linked. Therefore, solutions to the crisis must emanate from a decolonised framework.
28. Not only do we have to grapple with colonisation, we also exist in a capitalist imperialist framework. The ecological crisis we see is playing out along colonial lines. We know that the countries of the imperial core are overwhelming responsible for the excessive emissions that are driving the climate breakdown.



29. Through an ecological lens, we see pollen records showing the land's historic forest cover and the way the land has changed over time. The graph above shows that from around 1300, when Māori are believed to have arrived, the land's forest coverage took a dip as papakāinga and tussock lands were established. This is followed by a period of equilibrium for several hundred years.⁷ However, this changes dramatically when tauiwi arrive, taking out large amounts of forested land in favour of introduced crops and exotic grasslands, with huge numbers of cattle and sheep being brought over.
30. Our economy is based on environmental and colonial racism. The colonial government continuously stops short of looking at the intersection between colonisation and environment because it would force the Government to accept its part in the dispossession of Māori land and our right to self-governance on our own land.
31. The global south suffers the overwhelming majority of the impacts of climate breakdown. We just have to look to our whanaunga in Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa to see that.
32. I have expressed the problem as 'the big dinosaur in the room.'⁸ This being our whole export economy, where we have primary industries exporting the majority of their product overseas only for us to import similar product back in. We are burning up finite fossil fuels and overexploiting our environment to supply ten times our population overseas, leaving behind toxic wastes and damaging ecosystems, while profits go to corporate investors rather than into communities.
33. In effect companies privatise the profits but socialise the losses, both environmentally and socially. We use cheap labour overseas and poor migrants here to do our dirty work. As a country we are rich enough to provide decent working conditions here while supporting nations in need overseas. Domestic manufacturing should be rebuilt, and endless growth models of primary production need to end so everyone can afford to meet their basic needs.

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Wai 3262, #A1(a), p 25.

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Climate Justice Taranaki, *Media Release: Taranaki community transition plan wants fossil fuel phase out by 2030*, 9 September 2021.
<https://climatejusticetaranaki.info/2021/04/09/taranaki-community-transition-plan-wants-fossil-fuel-phase-out-by-2030/>

34. This all goes back to capitalist theories of exploitation and greed being 'okay'. The misogynist, white supremacy that led to western Europe's colonisation of much of the planet thanks to the machines of the industrial revolution was fuelled by coal, oil and gas. Climate change is the direct result of these economic theories which Aotearoa still holds to.
35. While we are concerned about the impacts of climate change – it's actually the *rate* in the change of the impacts that are of most concern. For example, if the rate of sea level rise is accelerating, our response this decade may be totally inadequate and overwhelmed in the next. This is why immediate, unprecedented strong efforts are required to slow that rate of change.
36. Current policies and solutions in part are not working because we do not acknowledge matauranga as an actual science. Attached to my evidence as 'ETAB-02' is a chronology of key climate policies and events.
37. I have written about '*How we can bring the world out of the mess in which it finds itself*' in a book called *Fleeing Vesuvius*.⁹ A copy of my essay is attached to my evidence as 'ETAB-03'. In the essay, I reflect on my personal experience:

I reflect on things often. There are a few things that stand out since my homecoming as feeding this change. The first are tikanga maori and rongo. I would translate tikanga maori as finding and following the natural law that maintains balance between all things – between tangata and whenua, atua and wairua. It starts with discovering and knowing whakapapa, our inseparable connection to all things, to our tupuna and to our uri. Coming home has reconnected me.

JUST TRANSITION PLAN

38. I will briefly discuss how the community came together to produce the Toitū Taranaki 2030 document.
39. In 2018, permits for new oil and gas exploration sites were stopped for the whole country except for onshore Taranaki. The Government rushed through a Tapuae Roa energy strategy¹⁰ via the mayor's forum and the Iwi Chairs Forum. Following

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¹⁰

[How we can bring the world out of the mess in which it finds itself – Fleeing Vesuvius](https://www.venture.org.nz/projects/tapuae-roa-and-taranaki-2050/tapuae-roa/)

Venture Taranaki – Tapuae Roa 2017/18 regional economic development strategy and action plan
(<https://www.venture.org.nz/projects/tapuae-roa-and-taranaki-2050/tapuae-roa/>). Strategy available online:
<https://www.venture.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Venture-Taranaki/170831-Final-Tapuae-Roa-Strategy.pdf>

complaints from the community, on the approach taken, the Government then decided on a roadmap route which was originally just for industry input.

40. Following further complaints by the community, we were allowed limited input as most of the hui happened during workdays and multiple streams ran at the same time (agriculture discussions were held in Hawera and energy discussions in New Plymouth). In our experience this was not good enough. The community was left out of the process which we felt was taken over by industries and which ultimately did not leave the transition community in a good space.
41. We were concerned that important community messages in the roadmap process had either failed to be incorporated or were uncertain in their interpretation within the Roadmap.¹¹
42. This prompted the community to come together and write our own transition plan. We spent over a year researching and testing plans and ideas to find a realistic path forward that actually brings emissions down fast enough.
43. The Government at that time agreed, in the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019, to set a new domestic greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for New Zealand to play our role to “keep global warming to no more than 1.5 degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels” by:¹²
 - a. reducing net emissions of all greenhouse gases (except biogenic methane) to zero by 2050, and
 - b. reducing emissions of biogenic methane to 24–47% below 2017 levels by 2050, including to 10% below 2017 levels by 2030.
44. The New Zealand Climate Change Commission (CCC), in its draft advice to the government (February 2021), pointed out that the government’s current Nationally Determined Contribution is insufficient to achieve our share of the reduction to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees C. Yet the Commission’s suggested emissions budgets also fall short of meeting our obligations.
45. When the government agreed to the Paris Agreement in 2015 “to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) to 30% below 2005 levels by 2030”, they in fact compared 2005 gross emissions to projected 2030 net emissions. This

¹¹ We recently found out that Venture Taranaki has reviewed its Tapuae Roa Energy Strategy with just mayors and iwi chairs despite our continued requests for an update. We have been informed that the new strategy is going to be announced soon.

¹² Wai 3262, #A1(a) at p 7.

improved the appearance of our poor commitment but actually meant allowing a 10% increase in gross emissions (with international aviation and shipping emissions not even decided on until 2024). At the end of 2019, the government reported a projected 20% increase in emissions by 2030 in the current Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement.¹³

46. The Climate Change Commission does not challenge this net-gross accounting fraud but continues it with their own net-gross calculations incorrectly using the 2010 gross CO₂ emissions amount for net CO₂, leading to a 564 MT ten-year target when it should indeed be 485 MT.¹⁴
47. The Lawyers for Climate Action NZ have reiterated that to do our 'fair share', we should be aiming at no more than 400 MT, and warned, "if the temperature increase exceeds 1.50 Celsius, we consider that adoption of the Commission's draft advice by the Government would not be consistent with the Crown's obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi".¹⁵
48. Toitū Taranaki 2030 strategy plan is a collaboration of research, experience, writing and ideas from several community groups and concerned residents of Taranaki, who met and discussed paths forward in two community-run just transition meetings in New Plymouth in 2019. We are tāngata whenua, workers, parents, scientists, farmers, students, health specialists and community organisers who want to see urgent action in our region and across the country for a 2030 just transition to a carbon neutral economy.
49. The Taranaki 2050 process was supported by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Venture Taranaki and Taranaki District Councils and which produced the Taranaki 2050 Roadmap in July 2019, and further Action Plans. Toitū Taranaki is an independent extension of that.
50. Ultimately Toitū Taranaki 2030 has been a compilation of feedback from those initial community meetings with substantial elaboration and editing by Climate Justice Taranaki volunteers, taking in more recent research and just transition ideas, evolving government policies and the 2021 Climate Change Commission draft advice to government.¹⁶

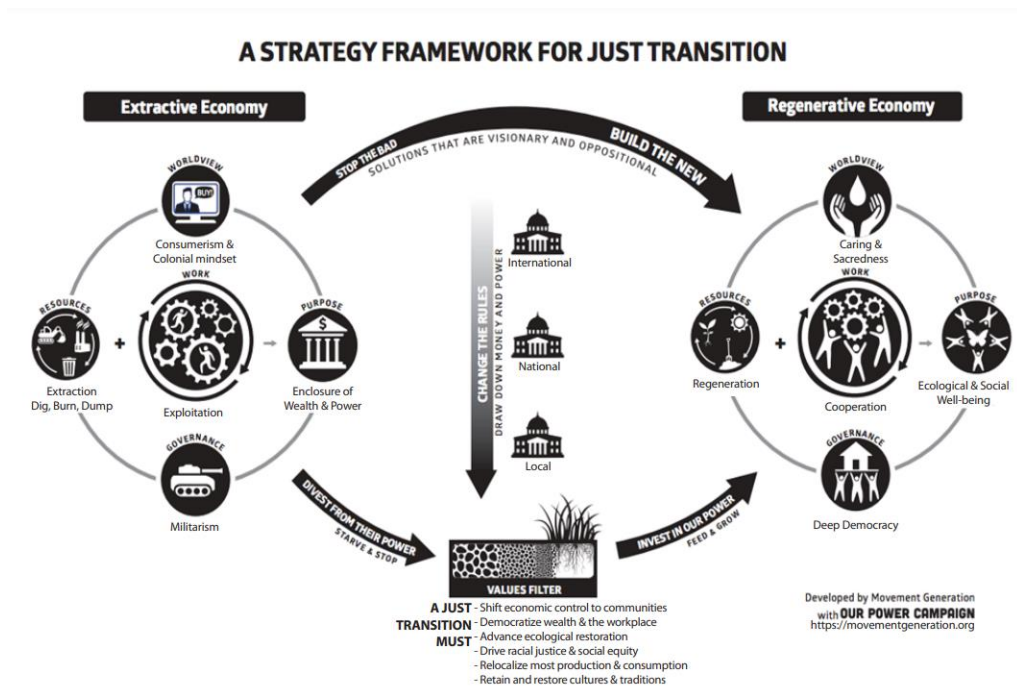
¹³ At p 7.

¹⁴ At p 7.

¹⁵ Lawyers for Climate Action, *Submission to Climate Change Commission*, 22 March 2021. Available online: [2021-03-22+LCANZI+Submission.pdf](https://www.canzi.org.nz/2021-03-22+LCANZI+Submission.pdf)

¹⁶ Climate Change Commission, 2021 Draft advice for Consultation. https://haveyoursay.climatecommission.govt.nz/comms-and-engagement/future-climate-action-for-aotearoa/supporting_documents/CCCADVICTOGOV31JAN2021pdf.pdf

51. This plan focuses on our region of Taranaki but we need the country to change if we want effective change. Therefore, the targets and suggestions for change are generic with a focus on Taranaki. We hoped Toitū Taranaki 2030 will be useful for setting good targets, time frames and action paths that can be used by our communities here and in other parts of the country including councils, government, iwi and businesses.
52. So what Climate Justice Taranaki is calling for is a just transition from an extractive economy to a regenerative economy.¹⁷ An extractive economy is one that takes resources and takes people's labour, with wealth ultimately going to a small group of people. A regenerative economy is one where we take but we also give back. People can participate in this model and are cared for. The purpose of it is to look after everyone and the planet so we can all thrive. To build a regenerative economy, power needs to shift from the top to the bottom.



53. We also need to see the emergence of values and narratives that shifts economic control back to the community and advances radical justice and social equity. This work also requires the retention and restoration of cultures and tradition.

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

54. A starting point for any discussion in Aotearoa has to include Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In drafting Toitū Taranaki, we have identified some key kupu and principles that should be part of the discussion.¹⁸
55. In the preamble, 'whanaungatanga' includes authentic engagement, the pursuit of the right relationship, each party working towards learning about the practice of relating to each other.
56. Article One – kawanatanga / governorship. When Te Tiriti was signed Māori agreed to a separate governance system for Pākehā, not to come under that governance system themselves. That Pākehā system was later forced on Māori when the Māori population shrank due to poor isolation practices for new, sick settlers. We must ensure that there is Tiriti partner input within strategic decision making, and full and proper consultation with Māori, ensuring that Māori are included in all decision making as partners to the Crown, not as stakeholders.
57. Article Two – tino rangatiratanga / absolute sovereignty. Honouring this requires integrating concepts of cultural vitality, healthy lifestyles, environmental integrity and social inclusion, along with the critical determinants of leadership and autonomy.
58. Article Three – ōritenga. Māori must enjoy the same levels of wellbeing as tauwiwi, which means we must advocate for equitable distribution of power and resources.
59. Article Four – wairuatanga. In te reo Māori, whakapono is the verb to believe or have faith, while wairuatanga is the noun for spirituality. As Rev. Maori Marsden explained in a collection of essays, *the Woven Universe*, Māori spirituality is like many other indigenous worldviews in holding the sacred unfolding of creation to be at the core of everyday life, embedding the basic concerns of human existence with the larger order of the natural and cosmic world. From a Māori worldview, all life is sacred and everything has a mauri, so therefore all things are related and interconnected and this is how we should view the world and conduct our lives.

TOITŪ TARANAKI 2030

60. As we see it, the three big areas we urgently need to set targets for are:
 - a. Energy;
 - b. Reforestation; and

c. Agriculture.

61. Through Toitū Taranaki 2030 we advocate for an enhanced community-resilience approach that focuses on industry and structural changes that drastically and urgently cut emissions that allow our people to transition while also extending aid to those less fortunate.
62. Central to our transition journey is the need to view the issue through an all-inclusive mana taiao, mana tangata lens respectful of environment and people. If we continue to use the same lens that created the problem, which has not been respectful of land, water, air and people, or other species that share our biosphere, we will only get the same outcome.
63. Therefore, we need solutions that interweave principles that seek to indigenise, to decolonise, to reconnect and revitalise our innate knowledge of how to live sustainably on this planet within our communities.
64. Focusing on our tūpuna maunga always reminds us that we are but a small part of an unbounded universe. Our tūpuna navigated the vast corners of the Pacific Ocean to these shores with the aid of signs from Taiao and stories from our ancestors. The sun, moon and stars continue to rise in the east of our tūpuna maunga and set in the sea. These are constant reminders to care for our whenua and food crops, and our family, friends and community. We need to be ever mindful of what the future is bringing day upon day, year upon year in this very changeable time, as Papatūānuku and her tamariki try to resettle the problems humans have created. We need to stand within nature again, not against nature.¹⁹
65. Elected politicians are not necessarily the best representative of their communities, as only citizens with the confidence, education, social networks, financial backing and belief in the current government system typically stand for election and win.
66. Those most in need may never vote, let alone stand, yet can be some of the most innovative and resourceful in creating simple, affordable solutions. This is indeed the case during emergencies where poor, close-knit communities, including iwi and hapū, often organise faster and more respectfully than governments or

mainstream institutions, because they are adept at using the little resources they have efficiently and prioritising those most in need.

67. Tāngata whenua must be treated as true Tiriti partners with real authority and resources to protect Taiao and revive and revitalise Māori communities with new and traditional knowledge and customs. Their longstanding knowledge of this whenua and commitment to protect the land and people will provide guidance for a sustainable future.

THE TARGETS

68. Toitū Taranaki 2030 was prepared in 2021 and requires updating. However, it is still a useful guide to illustrate how rapidly targets need to be achieved at this late hour to bring about even basic climate justice.

ENDING FOSSIL FUEL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION ACTION PLAN

69. When we drafted Toitū Taranaki 2030, we considered that the government's ban on much of the country's offshore exploration was a step in the right direction, but to quickly reduce energy emissions through changes in energy use, we needed to encourage some big behaviour and structural changes, which would support innovation.
70. All forms of perverse subsidies and other investments to the fossil fuel industry need to stop.²⁰ Bonds and insurances need to be mandatory at adequate levels to fully cover decommissioning and any potential risks such as failing well casings that only have an average life span of 20-30 years.
71. Natural gas is neither renewable nor a transition fuel due to the urgency of our climate crisis. Crucially, as the late Jeanette Fitzsimons warned in 2019, any new gas fired peaking power plants "will have design lives of at least 40 years, and will need a major new gas user such as a petrochemical plant, to keep the gas flowing".²¹
72. Regrettably, the Taranaki 2050 Roadmap and the recent Energy Transition Pathway Action Plan continue to advocate for gas exploration and mining, claiming falsely that it is an essential transition fuel. This is contrary to numerous

²⁰ Major banks in Aotearoa are playing a critical role in keeping the fossil fuel industry afloat by lending and investing billions of our savings in coal, oil and gas companies that have knowingly caused the climate crisis. [Fossil Free Banks \(350.org.nz\)](https://350.org.nz/)

²¹ Spinoff article, *A modest proposal for the future of the smelter at Tiwai Point*, 29 November 2019. Available online at: <https://thespinoff.co.nz/business/29-11-2019/a-modest-proposal-for-the-future-of-tiwai-point/?utm=presspatron-post-email-3-dec-2019>

studies, including full life-cycle analyses that have demonstrated that gas is just as bad as coal in its climate damaging effects.²²

73. When it comes to hydrogen, Taranaki and the government's 'great hope' to preserve Taranaki's Energy province status along with all our private vehicles plus cargo ships, trucks and aeroplanes, it's a con.²³ Although green-hydrogen from renewable energy is preferred over blue or brown hydrogen which are still reliant on fossil fuel mining, the technology is extremely energy wasteful, the fuel is highly volatile and the technology and infrastructure upgrade is expensive, complex and uncertain. Current business models for Aotearoa rely on starting with using fossil fuel-based hydrogen and a large export market for it to cover costs - both of which are economically and environmentally unsustainable.
74. The Resource Management Amendment Act 2020 now allows local government to take into account GHG emissions. Strict rules and consent conditions need to be introduced to monitor and cut fugitive emissions from the energy and petrochemical industries. Fugitive emissions in 2017 were responsible for almost 6% of our energy sector emissions resulting from production, transmission and storage of fuels, and from non-productive combustion. Examples are emissions from the venting of CO₂ at the Kapuni Gas Treatment Plant, gas flaring at oil production facilities, and emissions from geothermal fields.²⁴
75. Major education and advocacy programs are needed to promote and support lower and smarter use of energy mix including electricity, firewood and bioenergy. Various community initiatives, studies and models already exist in Aotearoa to achieve this (for example see research into renewable energy options for Parihaka Papakāinga).²⁵
76. We also identified that local governments are key energy users and are therefore highly influential in reducing overall energy consumption at local levels. This should be in their interest, because they have statutory responsibility to mitigate climate impacts on communities and are liable for repairing public infrastructure damage caused by extreme weather events and sea level rise.²⁶
77. An increasing number of councils have acknowledged that we are in a climate emergency or urgency (for example New Plymouth District Council (NPDC)).

²² Wai 3262, #A1(a) at p 35.

²³ Climate Justice Taranaki, *Press Release: Activists warn Adern: Hydrogen no path to low carbon future*, 23 July 2020.

²⁴ [Press release: Activists warn Adern: Hydrogen no path to low carbon future – Climate Justice Taranaki](#)
²⁵ [New Zealand energy sector greenhouse gas emissions | Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment](#)

²⁶ Mathers Thesis: [Renewable energy technology options for Parihaka Papakāinga \(massey.ac.nz\)](#), 2017.

Wai 3262, #A1(a), at p 41.

Many local government leaders, including the New Plymouth District Mayor, have signed up to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy,²⁷ which includes commitments to GHG emissions reductions and climate change preparedness. The NPDC Climate Action Framework (2019) goes as far as to call Taranaki “the national epicentre of New Zealand’s transition to a local carbon economy”.²⁸ In order to live up to this, NPDC has an obligation to show leadership in transitioning off natural gas use.

78. More specifically, over half of NPDC’s emissions can be attributed to natural gas consumption, in the wastewater treatment plant (63%), Todd Energy Aquatic Centre (16%), Govett-Brewster Art Gallery (6%) and Puke Ariki Museum (5%). The Council’s recent decision to replace the wastewater treatment thermal dryer with one run mainly on natural gas and, over time, up to 25% hydrogen, because this is a “shovel ready project” that the Crown will fund, was a poor decision.²⁹
79. Councils need to consult and work more closely with community groups and specialists with expertise on energy transition rather than locking public funds into dead-end infrastructure. There must be scope in the future to reduce waste volumes through three waters improvements, residential greywater and composting toilet installations, and a reconfiguration to biogas.

ENERGY AND TRANSPORT ACTION PLAN

80. New Zealand’s use of energy has dramatically increased over the last 100 years from 100 PJ to over 900 PJ, including a major rise in domestic and imported fossil fuels and a much smaller rise in domestic production of renewable energy typically used to generate electricity.
81. In 2019, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Enterprise (MBIE) recorded that we used a total of 902.55 petajoules of energy, mostly from oil (295.9) and gas (185.09), just over a third from renewables including wood (356.16) and some coal (64.24, not much changed since 1954) with some waste heat (1.17). Total non-renewables (coal, oil and gas) equalled 545.23 PJ, roughly 60%.³⁰

²⁷ Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy Oceania - <https://www.gcom-oceania.org/members/new-plymouth>

²⁸ Wai 3262, #A1(a), at p 41.

Climate Justice Taranaki, Oral submission to the New Plymouth District Council Extraordinary Meeting (26 Feb 2020) on Thermal Drying Facility Replacement Project and Urgent Maintenance. <https://climatejusticetaranaki.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ccheung-cjt-deputation-to-npdc-extraordinary-meeting-26feb20-with-postscript.pdf> and [NPDC approves budget up to \\$43m for thermal dryer project | Stuff](#)

³⁰ Wai 3262, #A1(a) at p 21 – 22.

82. In terms of electricity generation, from the 2024 report (recording the 2023 data) we know that:³¹
- a. The level of electricity generation from renewable sources reached its highest level on record driven by increases in hydro, wind, and solar generation. This led to the renewable share of electricity generation reaching 88.1 per cent, its highest level since 1981.
 - b. The increase in renewable electricity generation meant less generation was required from non-renewable sources. Gas generation was down 4.9 per cent (212 GWh) to 4,097 GWh, while coal generation dropped by 17.6 per cent (220 GWh) to 1,031 GWh.
 - c. Electricity consumption in the wood processing sector decreased by 32.8 per cent in 2023. This was 61.2 per cent lower than 5 years ago in 2019. Contributing to this was the closure of Norske Skog Tasman's newsprint mill in Kawerau at the end of June 2021, as well as a reduction in the activity of the sector in 2023 due to the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.
83. Toitū Taranaki 2030 advocates for four clear energy targets:
84. ENERGY TARGET ONE – Phase out fossil fuel domestic production and imports by 2030 with bans on new exploration, new production and new associated infrastructure by 2023.
- a. This Government's proposal to allow surface access, indeed any access, to Taranaki Conservation Land for petroleum exploration and mining is unacceptable, as it exacerbates the threats on indigenous biodiversity and natural ecosystems, undermining past and current conservation efforts.
 - b. To facilitate meaningful emissions reduction, there needs to be an immediate end to all fossil fuel exploration while allowing existing production to deplete, and a strategic, planned reduction of overall energy consumption.
85. ENERGY TARGET TWO - Phase out fossil-fuel based transportation by 2030 with a ban on new fossil-fuel vehicle imports by 2022.
86. ENERGY TARGET THREE - Phase out all fossil-fuel use in agriculture and other industries by 2030 with a ban on new fossil-fuel infrastructure by 2022.

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MBIE, Energy in New Zealand 2024. Available online at <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/energy-in-nz-2024.pdf>

87. ENERGY TARGET FOUR- get energy production, transmission, distribution and pricing back under public control by 2025.

- a. Tiwai Point Aluminium smelter uses 13 percent or more of our electricity at exceptionally low rates.³² Methanex used over 40 percent of NZ's fossil gas until recently when it dropped to 30 percent and now closed down temporarily as it profits more from selling gas under certain "commercial arrangements" than making methanol.³³ These two industries receive over-allocations of carbon credits under the ETS amounting to billions of dollars. There are clearly ways to substantially reduce the total energy demand and associated emissions while providing a more equitable energy market and transition pathway, requiring only the political will to deal with these industries.

88. Below is a suggested action plan and timeline to deliver the carbon neutral 2030 targets. **Grey** are the things to stop, **white** are the things to support:

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
No new coal, oil & gas permits	No new oil & gas drilling. Close all coal mines (& remediate by 2027)		Phase out oil & gas production*						
Ban new gas utilities		Phase out coal boilers			Phase out gas utilities except biogas				
80-90km/hr speed limit		Disincentivise private car ownership			Reduce international trade to essentials** only				
Ban fossil fuel car imports			Disincentivise non-essential^ air travel				Phase out large trucks		
Ban fossil fuel vehicle ads		Decrease car parks, redesign cities for active and public transport				Urban & rural cycle lanes on all commuter routes			
Support community-owned renewable energy					Zero waste Aotearoa				
Support energy-efficiency retrofits				Energy production & national grid into public ownership					
Support Escooter/Ebike/EV share schemes					Regional trains operational				
Public transport promotion campaign			Urban & regional public transport free or affordable, replace FF buses with EVs						
Restore, expand daily public transport services					Web communication fossil fuel free				
Support kinetic/electric product manufacturing					Support sail ships to the Pacific				

* except emergency services until renewable energy alternative is available

** Items that are not able to be made here and still considered essential by society eg. medicines

^ Short-term holiday-goers and business meetings for example

89. These energy targets can be met by:

³² Spinoff Article, *Why those in energy poverty should be angry about Rio Tinto's latest results*, 29 July 2021.

<https://thespinoff.co.nz/business/29-07-2021/why-those-in-energy-poverty-should-be-angry-about-rio-tintos-latest-results>

³³ NASDAQ, *Methanex (MEOH) to Temporary Idle New Zealand operations*, 13 August 2024. <https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/methanex-meoh-temporary-idle-new-zealand-operations>

- a. ending exploration and reliance on fossil-fuels, and restricting production to use in essential services only;
- b. substantially cutting energy wastage and consumption, and
- c. transitioning to the manufacture and efficient use of renewable energy-based infrastructure and transportation, providing new jobs and strengthening community energy resilience.

90. Some suggested ways to meet the transport targets include:

- a. promote localised activity, goods production and responsible transportation;
- b. phase out the import and export of goods that are available in Aotearoa already and/or non-essential, and limit non-essential international travel;
- c. provide and promote frequent, well connected and free public transport (or at least cheaper than multiple people driving private vehicles or flying);
- d. restore rail transport for freight and passengers and electrify the rail system;
- e. reduce the road speed limit from 100 km/hr to 80-90 km/hr, for savings in fuel, reduced emissions and reductions in accidents;³⁴
- f. ban fossil-fuel vehicle imports;
- g. ban/restrict advertising of fossil fuel vehicles (similar to cigarettes);
- h. phase out private vehicle ownership and increase vehicle sharing through support;
- i. increase active modes of transport such as walking and cycling, in particular extending cycle lanes across the region on all commuter routes;
- j. increase access to electric and pedal-powered vehicles; and
- k. make online communication easier and fossil-fuel free.

REFORESTATION AND AGRICULTURE ACTION PLAN

91. Taranaki is one of the country's leading fossil fuel producing regions and one of the top dairy intensive regions in Aotearoa. To reach targets for reforestation and agriculture, requires cultural shifts, legislative reform, financial incentives, redesign of product markets, retraining of local communities in multiple fields, shifting ownership of various assets, and careful management of risk, stress and uncertainty. We also need to address animal welfare, workers' rights, and health and safety.
92. The Ministry for Environment's (MfE) 2019 GHG Inventory estimated native forest cover had shifted from about 85-90% cover pre-human settlement and population expansion to 24-29% natural forest cover in 2017 with 7.8% exotic forestry, 54.5% grassland, 1.8% cropping, 2.6% wetlands, 0.9% built settlements and 3.3% classified as 'other', all on a land area of 26.8 million hectares. Since 2000, native and exotic plantings have increased, but so have the areas taken up by built settlements and land conversions for grassland.³⁵
93. The Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) still does not cap emissions, and it allows international offsets, thus limiting incentives for permanent planting by landowners in this country. The ETS' bank-and-wait for regulation changes or better profits scheme has also meant huge stockpiling of credits (117.2 million NZUs in 2021) unspent on actual reforestation and free credits (8.4 million NZUs) for big users who can threaten to shift overseas.
94. Our targets are not ambitious.
95. REFORESTATION TARGET ONE – phase out importing and exporting timber and shift forestry markets in Aotearoa predominantly towards the domestic market by 2030, reducing deforestation while creating new local wood processing and manufacturing jobs, decreasing transport emissions and helping ensure social and environmental protections.

96. REFORESTATION TARGET TWO – establish a sustainable forestry industry that meets all ongoing domestic consumption by 2030 consisting of a minimum 2.2% of total land area or of 0.587 million ha, requiring a reduction in current exotic forests by about 5.6% or 1.5 million hectares.
97. REFORESTATION TARGET THREE – establish a total permanent carbon sink from native forest, tussock land, wetland, scrub and duneland at a minimum of 60% of total land area or 16 million ha by 2030, an increase of 25.1% total land area from 34.9% (in 2017). Ideally that includes 40% total native forest (up 11% from 29%) and 10% total wetland (up 7.4% from 2.6%).
98. REFORESTATION TARGET FOUR – reform the ETS or switch to a carbon charge by 2022 that caps emissions, stops international offsetting and free allocations, includes agriculture and sets a price that will reduce emissions sufficiently to meet our targets.
99. In 2018, agriculture’s GHG emissions sat at 47.8% of our total emissions, or 37.7 MT, and was our country’s consistently worst emitter (and a major polluter of waterways and soils). These emissions are made up mainly of methane CH₄ (which is much more harmful than CO₂ but shorter-lived, changing into CO₂ at about 9% / yr) and nitrous oxide N₂O (which is even more harmful, plus long-lived).³⁶
100. Currently agriculture emissions are barely impacted by any climate agreements as farmers argue that new technology should provide solutions soon that will allow them to cut emissions directly. They also argue that because methane emissions are shorter-lived we shouldn’t worry about this GHG so much. The problem is that the technology doesn’t even exist to reduce methane at scale, yet the pollution continues. Over a short period, such as until 2030, CH₄ emissions are still far more harmful than CO₂ and of course come with the even worse N₂O.
101. Given that large dairy corporations like Fonterra export 95% of their product overseas to around 130 different countries and use massive amounts of fossil fuel to produce, process, transport and package their product, dairy is an industry that needs a climate justice overhaul. At 22.5% of our country’s total greenhouse gas emissions, the dairy industry is our largest single greenhouse gas emitter and even more so when transport and production emissions are also considered. With dairy industry debt at around \$41 billion in 2018 and the average farm owner operator owing the bank more than 50% of their assets including land, change is

ripe for farmers to downshift and/or diversify to smaller farms focussed on lower inputs and environmental impacts, creating quality domestic products with less debt and less competition.³⁷

102. AGRICULTURE TARGET ONE – phase out all fossil-fuelled processing of agricultural products by 2028 and all fossil-fuelled transportation for agriculture by 2030. Farm vehicles will ideally shift to EVs and biofuel.
103. AGRICULTURE TARGET TWO – phase out natural gas-derived and imported fertilisers and feeds for agriculture by 2025. All agriculture will ideally shift to regenerative systems by 2030.
104. AGRICULTURE TARGET THREE – shift central and local government plans, policies and bylaws, and banking rules to allow subdivisions and mortgages for smaller rural land blocks by 2022, to enable small-scale agriculture and land use diversification, new housing, forestry and other local needs such as local processing and retail.

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Ban blood phosphate	Ban forest to grassland conversion			Phase out farming on tussock and dune land					
No new* exotic forestry			Phase out export/import industry except essentials**						
Phase out coal-power processing				Phase out gas-power processing			All awa swimmable		
Phase out synthetic fertiliser					Stock excluded from all waterways^				
Ban PKE import		Support domestic timber processing, manufacturing							
Support local markets			Restore rural services, recreation facilities						
Increase permanent native forest, wetland, tussock land and duneland									
Support regenerative agriculture initiatives					Permanent carbon sink areas pest free				

* unless conversion from exotic grassland and for local sustainable use

** Such as medical, aid supplies or items unavailable here deemed essential by society

^ not just over 1m wide and 'natural', especially for spring fed Taranaki Ringplain streams that flow out to kaimoana reefs.

105. We have put together some suggestions for how these targets can be met:
 - a. Reduce stock numbers – a growth-based economy trying to keep on top of unsustainable debt has encouraged farmers to increase stock and use technology and external inputs while reducing labour.

- b. Cut synthetic fertilisers, blood phosphate and palm kernel extract (PKE). Using urea derived from natural gas and/or blood phosphates taken from Western Sahara under Moroccan military occupation, is no longer acceptable. Similarly, with feed products taken from agricultural practices that destroy forest habitat such as palm kernel extract (PKE). We need to ban the imports of blood phosphate and PKE and swiftly phase out synthetic fertilisers to help agriculture to be regenerative rather than degenerative.
- c. Stop forest to farm conversions.
- d. Shift research away from trialling time and money wasting, expensive, uncertain new technologies such as genetic engineering and spray-on de-nitrifying solutions aimed to allow business as usual to continue. We cannot keep exporting large volumes of dairy products if we are serious about being carbon neutral. Instead, we must focus on researching holistic solutions that are affordable, economically sustainable, user-friendly, respectful and beneficial to ecosystem health and the wellbeing of the average producer.
- e. Ban fossil-fuel powered processing plants – some of our biggest single emitters are milk processing plants run on coal.
- f. Downsize farms – young farmers are opting for smaller acreage and houses, smaller machinery and things like electric hand tools. Large dairy farms can be down-sized to feed a domestic market, and sections sold to pay-off debt and/or put into permanent land cover or sustainable forestry blocks.
- g. Downshift import and export markets – this can start with products that are already produced in Aotearoa such as fruit and vegetables. A free-trade market is only good for those doing the trading, but does little to protect growers, manufacturers and the rest who want a stable climate.
- h. Localise markets – plan, reorganise and protect farming for local consumption and domestic markets. Eating fresh products is better for our health and reduces transport and processing emissions along with unnecessary packaging. It also builds stronger communities through increased regular interaction and support.
- i. Diversify farms and food production – increase horticulture in dairy farming districts (eg. fruit, vegetables, nuts, timber, fungi), and increase urban farming, community-supported agriculture (CSAs) and community gardens. This increases access to more foods, employment and farming skills, as well

as increasing ecological biodiversity, community self-sufficiency and resilience, and reduces economic risk and farmer stress or boredom.

- j. Develop polyface farming – this involves multi-purposing land by rotating different animals on the same area one after the other simulating natural herd communities and migration (eg. pigs, chickens, cattle). This allows diverse animal fertilisers, different grazing styles and enables birds to eat parasites, which increases soil and animal health while creating multiple income streams for farmers.
- k. Develop regenerative farming – this builds soil carbon with longer-standing and more diverse pastures, while also improving animal health and reducing pollution and soil run-off to waterways.
- l. Move to once a day milking – shifting to milking once a day (OAD) leaves herds less stressed and better cared for while producing high quality milk. It also reduces feed requirements, effluent run-off and other associated costs, while also reducing workloads for staff, overall resulting in a better quality of life for all.
- m. Ban winter hard-grazing and limit stock numbers – prevent pasture and soils being destroyed and eroded in heavy rain with runoff and leaching of effluent to waterways, and harm to animal health.
- n. Phase out intensive indoor farming – this is expensive, wasteful and unnecessary when there are far better options to manage soil damage and animal well-being that don't put farmers into more debt.
- o. Diversify with cropping – NZ currently imports about 560kMT of wheat and 200kMT of corn and almost 400kMT of soybean meal, steadily rising from the 1980s. According to Stats NZ 2019³⁸ however, Taranaki only produces a tiny amount of sweetcorn, barley, squash, maize, potatoes and avocados. We need to integrate other food and fibre crops that are affordable in local markets and support better wages for farmers rather than relying on imported grains like rice and wheat from poorer countries with worse labour conditions.
- p. Sustainable harvest forestry – instead of shipping low value, unprocessed pine overseas, change the local forestry and timber processing industry to

grow high value trees that are more resistant to rot and disease and future climate impacts on small community timber lots rather than toxic chemical processing. Planting and selective harvesting needs to be coordinated among communities to avoid mass harvests that flood the markets, driving prices down and causing environmental damage. Coppicing and a wider variety of timbers should be more readily available to increase ecological biodiversity and decrease soil damage. Local manufacturing of timber and paper products should also be restored to replace imported products (including 'cheap' plastics) and provide more local jobs.

- q. Increase areas under permanent native forest land cover – these serve as carbon sinks, provide biodiversity protection, and protect freshwater and wild habitat. Harvested forest blocks and other land areas can be bought with public money derived from carbon charges to restore native forests, tussock lands, wetlands, scrubland and dunelands. These lands would be held as public conservation lands or as iwi or community-owned conservation blocks. Not only does this provide carbon sinks and ecological services such as wind shelter, water storage and ecological refuges, but they also sustain 'wild produce' such as rongoā, fish, birds, plant foods and fibres for all to enjoy. Protected wetlands, riparian and estuarine habitats hold and release water slowly to manage flows in drought and heavy rain while cleaning water for drinking, recreation, fisheries and kaimoana on coastal reefs and out to sea.
- r. Support Māori to repopulate their lands – the call to reduce council rates on Māori-owned land and assistance to increase access for land under multiple-ownership will greatly help Māori get back on their land to live, produce food and care for taiao. So much Māori-owned land is tied up in old perpetual leases and unworkable land ownership agreements. These were forced on Māori many generations ago during the various eras of land confiscation by the Crown which is still ongoing today. Major legal assistance, law reform and financial aid are needed to increase access, use of and management of Māori lands by Māori.
- s. Introduce capital gains taxes – we are really seeing now how important capital gains tax is with house prices skyrocketing from Covid bailouts that made multiple homeowners richer at the expense of workers who may now never own a home. To reduce inequality and excessive concentrations of wealth, the rich should pay their fair share in taxes to support the whole

community, rather than putting their excess wealth into more land and housing.

- t. Ban foreign ownership of land – many countries like Thailand do not allow land to be owned by non-citizens. We have seen in recent years how forests, farms and housing have been bought up by foreign investors (often for ‘climate bolt holes’) creating a rise in prices and social unrest in local communities who must bear the brunt of any local problems.
- u. Introduce financial advisor controls and provide better access to financial information – the NZ farming sector already has over \$40 billion of debt and high rates of depression and suicide. Restrictions are needed to stop corporate and government advisors from pressuring farmers to buy assets they can’t afford or sometimes even need, putting them into mounting debt that builds stress and risk.
- v. Better protect workers rights – legal and social support is needed to stop unfair contracts where farm staff can work 80hr weeks and barely break even, or where foreign workers can effectively be forced into modern-day slavery and rural isolation. We need living wages for all workers and better housing conditions so that agricultural jobs are not farmed out to cheap foreign labourers and their agents.
- w. Better protect animal well-being – the shift away from meat eating and towards veganism has already increased in younger generations wanting to reduce GHG emissions and stop animal cruelty. Ethically-raised animal production needs to be supported as a new norm.
- x. Stop mining, oil and gas prospecting, exploration, production and toxic chemical disposal or use on farmland, in order to protect soils, water and communities from contamination and potential leaks and explosions.
- y. Encourage the use of methane digesters – biogas and compost on farms needs to be encouraged and supported for powering farms, feeding soils and reducing fugitive emissions.
- z. Support home composting and small-scale community resource recovery, composting and recycling operations - this saves money and is far more efficient than trucking ‘waste’ to other regions (even if they’re electric trucks).

POLITICAL AND CULTURAL ACTION PLAN

106. The greatest obstacle to a just transition and a zero-carbon future is inequality. It is no surprise that a huge disparity in access to and use of resources exists in Aotearoa.
107. True social justice will require honest disclosure of the disparities in our societies and a fundamental shift in attitudes amongst the higher emitting privileged and more able sectors of society to share their wealth and consume less.
108. This will take cultural change in values and behaviour, as well as political change, which will come from increased education around equity and sustainability and interaction between all classes of society. It will also require upskilling and resourcing of disadvantaged communities to increase their participation in decision-making.
109. The government, councils, iwi and community organisations should work together with industries, unions, technical and education institutions to develop effective jobs-rich transition pathways that provide for workers' welfare, education, upskilling and retraining for new jobs needed to support local communities, economies and climate-friendly industries.
110. Below are some suggestions for how political and cultural change can be achieved based on the previous mentioned targets and action points.

2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Measure and charge global travel GHGs in ETS/tax			Limit international travel			Limit international trade			
Capital gains tax		Limit multiple house ownership			Limit new land ownership			No homelessness	
Reform ETS / new carbon tax		Inheritance tax		Wealth tax		All buildings energy efficient			
Phase out grey/stormwater in sewers				Support greywater, compost & rainwater infrastructure					
Ban disposable plastics & aluminium				Redesign & build local, domestic market economies					
Charge business for water takes		Incr. social housing stock			Major papakāinga housing & land support				
Living wage for all		4 day work/school week			Mobility access in all public & work spaces				
No GST on food		Overhaul food & trade acts			Crown increase return of land to Māori				
Support circular economy infrastructure				Co-mgmt iwi & regional councils				Zero waste NZ	
Remove refugee quota, increase intake				Residency for Pacifica in NZ			Free education & health		
Decentralise & redesign town/country for active & public transport							Free local public transport		

DECISION-MAKING AT THE HEART OF A JUST TRANSITION

111. Central to this discussion is Te Tiriti. Māori must be able to exercise their tino rangatiratanga over their taonga. We know colonisation continues to exclude Māori not just from their whenua, but also from decision-making.
112. For 184 years this country has been run by a central government of elected representatives under foreign colonial rule.
113. If we are to have a just transition, we need to:
 - a. Put governance back in the hands of indigenous peoples who have the knowledge to re-establish sustainable economies and rebalance the unequal and over-use of the planet's resources. This can start with truly honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi and governing at all levels of community in 50:50 partnership with tangata whenua.
 - b. Also put decision-making power back in the hands of those who are most affected by economic change and climate change, namely the poor, those living off the land, women, children, tangata whenua and workers. Some people may not have the necessary skills so they will need upskilling and resourcing to do a good job. It's time our councils and governments shift power off the corporates to support real public participation.
 - c. Decision-making authorities should also be decentralised on a workable scale so that decision-makers can have a thorough understanding of issues in their communities. In other words, community boards and hapū should have more authority in their territories while central and regional governments, with reduced authority, are there to ensure integrated management of national and regional issues.
 - d. Decision-makers should have limited terms on the job eg. 3 terms of 3 years, to ensure people don't see the job as a personal career to build their ego and power base or waste their time just enjoying perks and privilege, but actually do their job for our communities. We need to have succession planning built into our governance structures.
114. Climate justice demands indigenous solutions. Tangata whenua have been advocating for generations to refocus our thinking and behaviour towards sustainability and recognising that we are a part of the environment and the environment is part of us.

115. Mana Taiao must always come first. Communities need to reconnect with Taiao and understand and maintain healthy natural environments which nurture and sustain healthy communities.
116. Just transition education needs to be founded in respect for the natural environment and other living things. The hierarchy of needs encapsulated in the Ministry of the Environment's Te Mana o Te Wai concept³⁹ provided a glimmer of hope in which the needs of wai and aquatic life come before the needs of humans, followed last by commercial enterprise.
117. Major social and political change needs serious planning, resources, education and upskilling support. This needs to provide for children right through to kaumātua but especially provide for disadvantaged peoples during the next crucial decade. We cannot leave it to the already privileged and powerful who have failed for years to bring change, nor can we leave it for our children to deal with these issues.
118. Whatever happens next, it's clear we're all up against a ticking clock so we need as many people to do as much as they can particularly in these next ten years. We need to look up from individual changes and blame, and focus on what cannot just reduce the most emissions quickly, but also on what changes can have the most social and broad environmental benefits.
119. Put simply, we need major social change and system change to meet this climate threat and prevent the destruction of Māori communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS SOUGHT

120. A finding is sought that the Crown is recklessly indifferent to and actively placing Māori communities at existential risk with its current policies and must urgently adopt ambitious 'real zero' targets for Aotearoa to come well within the temperature guidelines set by the Paris Agreement.
121. The claimants seek recommendations that the Crown, and the Ministers responsible, immediately end actions, policies and laws that promote GHG emissions that are currently impacting Māori communities and that have a high likelihood of total destroying Māori communities and their environment, and ensure maximal resources and the highest ambition are immediately devoted to preventing that outcome.

122. Specific recommendations are sought that the Crown:
123. Work with communities, and in partnership with Māori, a comprehensive community powered strategy, with a strong Maori voice, for a fast and just carbon neutral transition, to implement the targets at or near those recommended in Toitū Taranaki 2030.
124. Ensure that their climate change policy and emissions reduction targets address and mitigate existing and future inequitable impacts on Māori communities.
125. Shift climate change policy and targets away from the current heavy reliance on extensive planting of exotic 'forever' forests;
126. Immediately take substantial action and devote substantial resources to mitigate the disproportionate impacts of climate change on Māori; and
127. Provide support and resources to Māori communities to adapt their current use of land and resources to be climate change resilient.



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