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**[Draft] Letter of Support - Manauī Hearing**

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From Duncan Hardie <[REDACTED]>  
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To Lin.nguyen@wrc.govt.nz <Lin.nguyen@wrc.govt.nz>

Dear Lin

Whilst I have already written a formal submission which I will be presenting in person as the founder and Chair of Westland Mineral Sands, I would like to write one personally and as someone who has spent many years living, working, investing, raising my young family and relaxing within Westland.

I understand the region's isolation with both its positives and negatives. The redevelopment of the Buller and Grey ports has always to me been a priority for the region, along with perhaps, a third at either Jackson's or Bruce Bay, being both natural and former port sites.

There are many undeveloped natural resources still awaiting to be discovered. The area is not well explored geologically, other than for coal and gold. So many other minerals and critical elements exist within the alpine fault mineralised zone and surrounding landscapes. Many are bulk commodities and trucking to the east coast is uneconomic. Aggregate, sand and other building materials are the most obvious and plentiful, all in short supply in the North Island, the East Coast of Australia, Singapore and beyond. The reopening of these ports can do so much to both the local and national economies.

More specific to this application, for past decade's I have believed that the sensitive wetlands which abut this application's freehold land, themselves freehold land, should have always been vested within the two local iwi runanga's due

their past sensitive history. The successful granting of this application will achieve this goal, giving me personally intense satisfaction, righting a past oversight.

I know that it would be unusual for one person to write more than one submission but hope that this personal one is seen in a different light to the more formal company submission I have already made.

Regards and Thank-you for considering.

Duncan Hardie