



Office of Hon Christopher Finlayson

Attorney-General
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

15 MAR 2010

Wikitoria Keenan
Chairperson
Te Atiawa Iwi Authority
PO BOX 1018
NEW PLYMOUTH 4340

Tēnā koe

Thank you for submitting the Te Atiawa Iwi Authority Deed of Mandate to the Crown to negotiate a comprehensive settlement of all Te Atiawa (Taranaki) historical Treaty claims.

We have concluded that the Te Atiawa Iwi Authority (TAIA) has the support of nga uri o Te Atiawa (Taranaki) and is an appropriate body to represent Te Atiawa (Taranaki) in settlement negotiations with the Crown.

We are therefore pleased to recognise the mandate of TAIA to represent nga uri o Te Atiawa (Taranaki) in negotiations for the settlement of all their historical Treaty claims.

There were several issues raised in the submissions received by the Office of Treaty Settlements on TAIA's Deed of Mandate. Officials will contact you shortly to discuss how to best address these issues in the period leading up to commencing formal negotiations. None of the issues raised, however, preclude us from recognising TAIA's mandate.

We are pleased with the progress made to date and look forward to signing Terms of Negotiation with you on 17 March at Owae Marae.

Nā māua noa,

Hon Christopher Finlayson
**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi
Negotiations**

Hon Dr Pita R Sharples
Minister of Maori Affairs