

# Waikato



REGIONAL COUNCIL

*Te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Waikato*

# 2013 UPDATE

Katherine Luketina and Jim McLeod



New eruption crater, Te Maari, Tongariro

# Changes

- New council – November
- Waikato River Authority  
(Waikato River Clean-up Trust)
  - Tainui
  - Raukawa
  - Maniapoto
  - Te Arawa
  - Tuwharetoa
  - Waikato Regional Council
  - Waikato District Council
  - Waipa District Council
  - South Waikato District Council
  - Rotorua District Council
  - Taupo District Council
  - Ministry for the Environment



# Changes

- New council – November
- New CEO – November



# Changes

- New council – November
- New CEO – November
- Organisational Restructure - now



# Policy

- **2G Waikato Regional Policy Statement**

- Agreement has been reached with the parties on amendments to settle the appeals under the Geothermal topic. Consent documentation has been circulated and, once signed, will be filed with the Court.

- **International interest in our policy**

- PNG ministers visit, December 2012
- East Java Province officials visit, December 2012
- Japan Renewable Energy Foundation, March 2013
- Vanuatu Energy Minister, native landowners visit July 2013
- PNG Dept of Mineral Policy & Geohazards Managements visit, Sept 2013
- Trip to Peru with IRENA, November 2013

# Policy

- **Regional Plan Review**
  - Starting 2017
  - Refresh system boundaries
  - Quantify sustainability, controlled depletion, resource assessment
  - Standardise SMP, monitoring, reporting
- **Epithermal Gold Submission**
  - PAM confirmed our robust policy framework can deal with adverse effects
- **National Policy Statement on Fresh Water**
  - Our submission to remove geothermal water from the Statement has been implemented

# Science/Technical Reports published

<http://waikatoregion.govt.nz/Services/Publications/Geothermal/>

- Te Aroha geothermal system (Geothermal Institute)
- Ohinewai system (Geothermal Institute)
- Geothermal features annual monitoring report – Jan 2012
- Geyser Time series analysis (Massey University)
- Soil macro-fauna in geothermal heated soils (Ecometrics)
- Soil-dwelling invertebrates in native geothermal vegetation areas (Ecometrics)
- REGEMP regional geochemical survey (Golder)



# Science/Technical reports planned

- National standard for classifying geothermal vegetation (Landcare)
- Geothermal features annual monitoring report – Jan 2013 (WRC)
- Managing biodiversity in geothermal sites (Ecometrics)
- Further analysis of geyser recordings and controls on periodicity (Massey)
- Reports on Ohinewai, Te Aroha, Okauia (various)

# Science Projects

- 1418 Waikato features given national numbers – GNS/BOPRC/WRC project
- Waimangu monitoring
- SuperModels – value to WRC
- Groundwater & geothermal

*Healthy environment*

*Strong economy*

*Vibrant communities*

# Consents

- Ngatamariki operative
- Te Mihi operative
- Ohaaki re-consented
- Rotokawa North drilling and testing consents renewed.
- Rainbow purchase of Geotherm assets

# MOU with BOPRC

- Alignment of Regional Policy
  - General alignment achieved between RPSs
  - Working with facilitator toward Regional Plan alignment
- Cooperation
  - Waimangu Monitoring
  - Monthly staff video conference
  - Occasional senior management meetings



2013-Oct-17



2013-Aug-8



2013-Oct-22

# 2013 – 2014 big issues for council

- Waikato Geothermal Workshop (Stakeholders and River Co-managers)
- New Council
- Waitangi Tribunal Recommendation on Tongariro National Park