

**IN THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL**

**WAI 2490**

**IN THE MATTER**

of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 (as amended)

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER**

of the Ngāpuhi Mandate Inquiry (Wai 2490)

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**BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF NORA RAMEKA FOR NGĀTI RĒHIA**

**Date: 14 November 2014**

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## **BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF NORA TAWHI RAMEKA**

**Ko Orongo taku maunga**

**Ko Takou te awa**

**Ko Whetu Marama, me Mataatua ki Takou, Whitiora, Hiruharama  
oku marae**

**Ko Ngāti Rēhia, Kaitangata, Ngati Kuri nga hapu**

**Ko Ngāpuhi te iwi**

**Ko Mataatua te waka**

**Ko Puhi moana ariki te tangata**

**Ko Te Kowhai taku tupuna**

**Ko Nora Tawhi Rameka taku ingoa**

### **Introduction**

1. My name is Nora Tawhi Rameka. I was brought up in Te Tii and now live in Takou Bay.
2. I have been one of key people of the hapu of Ngāti Rēhia who has worked to prepare the Treaty of Waitangi Claims for our hapu.
3. Ka mihi ki aku kaumatua me nga kuia o Ngāti Rēhia na ta ratou tohutohu me a ratou korero ka u Ngāti Rēhia ki ona mahi.
4. Ngāti Rēhia hapu has two claims before the Waitangi Tribunal, Wai 492 and Wai 1341.
5. I recognise and have much respect for the other hapu in these proceedings and the strong whanaungatanga relationships we share. E rua nga taha o te kaupapa o te ra, taha e whakahe i te karauna me te taha e whakaponu kia tuhoronuku.
6. I do not believe the Crown support for the Tuhoronuku mandate is the main issue which has driven hapu against hapu and whanau against whanau. I believe the whole process of the historical Treaty claims against the Crown and the overlapping of claimants in hapu rohe has created the mistrust between hapu and whanau.
7. Ngāti Rēhia has always supported Te Whakakotahitanga o Ngāpuhi.
8. The hapu of Ngāti Rēhia has always supported and continues to support Te Runanga a Iwi o Ngāpuhi.

9. The four marae of Ngāti Rēhia with 12 other marae have always participated in the Taiamai o Te Marangai Takiwa which is committee of Te Runanga a Iwi o Ngāpuhi.
10. I have been involved with the Roopu o Taiamai ki Te Marangai Takiwa since 1996. I was secretary/Treasurer of the Roopu Taiamai Ki Te Marangai Takiwa from 1998 to 2008. I am the current Chairperson and have held that position for the last six years.

**Issue 1: The division of the Hapu of Ngāpuhi re Tuhoronuku Mandate**

11. The hapu of Ngāti Rēhia have traditionally always sought the tautoko of Ngāpuhi hapu.
12. In 1984-85 Ngāti Rēhia called hui of Ngāpuhi hapu to organise the reunion of uri o Mataatua Waka. All the kaumatua o Ngāpuhi tautoko te karanga a Ngāti Rēhia.
13. Ka mihi ki nga rangatira o Ngāpuhi ki te Whaea Whina Cooper, Kia Meeke Taylor, Manga Tau ki era atu o ratou nga rangatira o Ngāpuhi. Tenei te hui nui e whakakotahi i nga uri o Toroa raua ko Puhi. E hui e kore warewarehia mo nga mahi i mahi tahi hia e nga hapu Ngāpuhi.
14. In the year 1993 I was employed at Waikato University when the Kaumatua Tu Kemp called me to help organise the first claim for Ngāti Rēhia.
15. Kaumatua Tu Kemp, before proceeding with the claim now known as Wai 492 (Koriripo Pa), invited nga rangatira katoa o nga hapu o Ngāpuhi to Whitiara marae, Te Tii, Mangonui.
16. The hui was held on the 13 February at Whitiara marae there was over 100 hundred people attended the hui. Amongst the hui attendees were the Waitangi Tribunal staff and CEO Buddy Mikaere.
17. The Ngāti Rēhia kaumatua Tu Kemp, Wiremu Heihei, Henare Ngawati, Hone Mitai, Remarie Kapa asked for the tautoko of Ngāpuhi for Ngāti Rēhia to put forward the claim for Kororipo pa and its surrounding lands. Ngāti Rēhia e kaitiaki mo nga hapu katoa o Ngāpuhi.
18. At the hui o Nga Hapu o Ngāpuhi in 1994 the kaumatua Mac Taylor and Manga Tau on behalf of the hapu o Ngāpuhi tautoko Ngāti Rēhia's

request to put forward the Claim 492.

## **Issue 2: Ngāti Rēhia role in Takutai Moana and Tuhoronuku**

19. The hapu of Ngāti Rēhia called a hui in 13 June 2007 at Whitiara marae for all hapu in Pewhairangi.
20. The kaupapa of the hui was to strengthen the whanaungatanga of all the hapu within the rohe of the Takutai Moana.
21. The hapu that established Takutai Moana were Ngāti Rēhia, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Kuta, Patukeha, Te Kappotai, Ngāti Torehina, Ngāti Kawa, Ngāti Rahiri, Matarahurahu and Ngāti Manu.
22. Meetings were held monthly at different marae in the Takutai Moana rohe. The focus of these meetings was kaitiakitanga of the Taiao and the Treaty Claims.
23. The Ngāti Rēhia hapu Treaty claims team members that attended the hui were Te Huranga Hohaia, Waitai Tua, Wiremu Heihei, Tajim Mohammed –Kapa, and myself.
24. I attended most of the Takutai Moana meetings in Kawakawa and also attended the Working Party meetings as we planned for Stage One and Two Waitangi Tribunal hearings.
25. Ngāti Rēhia have been closely associated with both Te Kotahitanga o ngā Hapū Ngāpuhi and Ngā Hapū o Te Takutai Moana ever since the respective establishment of these groups approximately six years ago.
26. During this period of association with the aforementioned groups, we remained strongly opposed to the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate. As a result of amendments to the Tūhoronuku Deed of Mandate, we considered they were sufficient for Ngāti Rēhia to engage in this process.
27. The hapu of Ngāti Rēhia supports Tuhoronuku and now have a hapū kaikorero representative sitting on the Tuhoronuku Mandating Authority.
28. E mihi tenei ki a Ngāpuhi whanau whanui. During the Tuhoronuku elections I was elected as the Kuia for Ngāpuhi on the Tuhoronuku Mandating Authority.

29. We of Ngāti Rēhia hapu have consistently voiced the way forward for all of Ngāpuhi.

Ki a kotahi te hikoi, me mahitahi, me aroha tetahi ki tetahi.

Ka ū tonu te hapu o Ngāti Rēhia ma Ngāti Rēhia ano e korero.

No reira tena koutou katoa e nga hapu whanau o Ngāpuhi.

**DATED** this 14th day of November 2014



Nora Rameka