

**UNDER** The Resource Management Act 1991

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of an application for resource consents for Project  
Next Generation by Port Otago Limited

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**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of the submission lodged by Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka  
Ki Puketeraki

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**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF  
TAMATEA SMITH  
ON BEHALF OF KĀTI HUIRAPA RŪNAKA KI PUKETERAKI**

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### Tama Smith, Member of the Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka Executive

- 1.1 My name is Tamatea Smith, and I was born in 1946. It is still unclear whether I was named after this meeting house or whether it was named after me, I would prefer the latter.
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- 1.2 Weekends and holidays during my childhood and early teenage years were spent with my grandparents Dick and Vic Te Tau in Karitane. In that time it was a common practice to be sent with a bucket to the cockle beds in the Waikouaiti River. Even as a young child I was expected to bring back half a bucket for a meal for the whānau. The idea of hot cockles on melting butter and bread brings back vivid memories.
- 1.3 My Father and Grandfather also used to take me to the Merton Tidal Arm to spear flounders and eels. As I grew older I would accompany my Tāua with a bucket and screw driver to collect paua on the river mouth side of Huriawa Peninsula.
- 1.4 I also enjoyed fishing for greenbone off the end of Huriawa Peninsula with my cousin Tai Te Tau. Kelp around Huriawa and on the rocks provided a good food source/nursery for Greenbone.
- 1.5 Another childhood memory is collecting toheroa from the Waikouaiti Bay with my father, there is no evidence today of toheroa in the bay.
- 1.6 Historically Karitane families have been reliant upon these food sources to feed their family and visitors. This tradition is still maintained by many families if availability allows.
- 1.7 Today cockles can still be collected in the Waikouaiti River area but are not as plentiful; paua are very rare, as are shore caught greenbone.

## 2.0 KŌRERO (DISCUSSION)

- 2.1 For the last 10 years I have been a member of the Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka Executive. Our marae is renowned for providing visitors with delicious tuaki/cockles. The Executive is very keen to see this manaakitanga tradition preserved.

### **3.0 SUMMARY OF CONCERNS**

My concerns with Project Next Generation are:

- 3.1 We need to be looking extremely carefully at anything that may impinge upon growing conditions for the remaining kaimoana. Any increase in the amount of sand sedimentation will have a negative effect in and around the Puketeraki / Karitane / Waikouaiti area.
- 3.2 The potential for degradation caused as a result of coastal sand drift would need to be fully investigated so that appropriate mitigation could be put in place to meet our concerns.

**Thank You**