



“More fish in the water/Kia maha atu nga ika ki roto i te wai”

Resolution from Hokianga Accord Oturei hui held 12-13 May 2011.

The Hokianga Accord supports Te Whanau a Apanui, Ngati Porou and Greenpeace in opposing deep sea drilling in the Raukumara Basin off East Cape. Our mid north iwi fisheries forum encompasses the commercial and non-commercial interests of Ngapuhi, Ngati Whatua, other northern iwi and hapu, environmental and fishing interest groups.

Our Accord’s concerns include the following, but are not limited to:

- The lack of consultation with tangata whenua and coastal communities;
- The possible environmental impacts of deep water drilling in tectonic plates up to 3000m, which is twice the depth of the failed Gulf of Mexico oil well;
- The lack of proven technology to be deployed for such deep water drilling;
- The use of overseas companies to develop any hydrocarbon reserves;
- The lack of environmental protection beyond 12 nautical miles, outside RMA jurisdiction.
- The lack of suitable, and sufficient, capacity to cope with even a moderate accidental spillage;
- The absence of any locally based apparatus and the subsequent length of time for specialist equipment to be delivered to any accident zone from overseas (variously stated to be a minimum of 3 to 4 months);
- The apparent lack of knowledge displayed by Ministers when stating that the permits are for exploration only, when the requirements of the authorisation are for the holder to drill at least one well within the term; and
- The potential for ruin of our fisheries that provide for people’s social, economic and cultural well-being.

The experience of Taranaki iwi when dealing with Petroleum based companies adds to our concerns and we will be taking an active part in addressing these pan-Iwi issues.

George Riley
Co-chairman
Hokianga Accord