



Paul Majurey

Professional Qualifications

LLB (Hons) Auckland

Key Areas of Experience

Environmental Law

Treaty of Waitangi / Māori Law



Paul has specialised in environmental and Treaty of Waitangi law for over 26 years.

He has extensive experience in securing environmental consents for major natural resource development and infrastructure projects, including: electricity generation - thermal (gas, coal) and renewables (hydro, wind, geothermal); minerals development (coal, gold and petroleum); dairy processing projects (North Island and South Island); large scale aquaculture projects (mussels and oysters); pulp and paper manufacture and forestry developments.

Paul regularly provides advice on Treaty of Waitangi and Maori land issues. He also is Treaty negotiator with the Crown on claims encompassing an area generally between Matakana Island through to Matakana (near Leigh). He is the Chair of both the Hauraki Collective of Iwi and Tamaki Makaurau Collective of Iwi who have been in parallel negotiations since 2009.

Paul appears as Senior Counsel before the Environment Court, Maori Land Court, Waitangi Tribunal, and superior courts.

Paul is of Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Whanaunga, Ngāti Tamaterā and Ngāti Pāoa (Marutūāhu) descent.

Examples of important cases

- The Karikari case in which the Court of Appeal reversed then current case law on sections 3 and 4 of the Town and Country Planning Act.
- The widely cited Privy Council case of McGuire v Hastings District Council in which Lord Cooke of Thorndon affirmed the place of the 'Maori provisions' in the RMA.
- The Ngati Maru cases in which the courts clarified evidential considerations in relation to wahi tapu and taonga within the RMA; the Greenpeace cases in which the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court confirmed the parameters for climate change considerations in RMA decision-making
- The Tongariro Power Development cases in which the High Court and Court of Appeal confirmed the law in relation to evidential onus and the review conditions regime.

- The first wind farm case before the Environment Court (Awhitu).

Specialist appointments Paul has accepted include:

- Special Counsel for the Waitangi Tribunal on the release of its Ko Aotearoa Tenei Report (Wai 262).
- Minister for the Environment's 2009 Technical Advisory Group on the reform of the RMA.
- Attorney-General's 2009 Ministerial Review Panel on the co-management arrangements for the Waikato River Treaty settlement.

Paul is a co-author of *Environmental & Resource Management Law* (2nd and 3rd Editions), including the chapter entitled Maori and Environmental Law. He is also co-author for the Maori chapter of the making-good decisions course for certifying RMA commissioners.

Current and former positions of responsibility include:

- Chairman – Hauraki Collective of Iwi
- Chairman – Tāmaki Makaurau Collective of Iwi
- Director – Tikapa Moana Enterprises Limited
- Director – Pare Hauraki Asset Holdings Limited
- Director – New Zealand Pastoral Agriculture Research Institute Limited
- Trustee – Te Ara Tika Charitable Trust (Māori Spectrum Trust)
- Director – Russell McVeagh Board of Management

Environment law related positions:

- Ministerial Technical Advisory Group on the RMA (2012)
- Ministerial Technical Advisory Group on the RMA (2009)
- Ministerial Review Panel on the Co-Management Arrangements for the Waikato River
- Expert Adviser to Combined Departmental Officials' Working Group – RM U II (Spatial Plan) and RM II Maori Participation
- Hauraki Gulf Forum Tāngata Whenua Representative (Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000) (2000 – present)
- Environmental Law Committee - New Zealand Law Society
- Chair – Environmental Section, Inter-Pacific Bar Association
- Local authority RMA Hearing Commissioner (Northland Regional Council, Auckland Regional Council, Auckland Council)