



Office of Hon Amy Adams

Member of Parliament for Selwyn

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Communications and Information Technology

Associate Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery

Whatarangi Winiata
22 Te Manuao Road
Ōtaki

20 September 2012

Dear Whatarangi Winiata

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 11 September 2012 notifying me of your intention to seek an urgent hearing with the Waitangi Tribunal.

As advised at our meeting of 15 August 2012 while I undertook to respond in writing to your proposal, I indicated that I would have to take the options to Cabinet before being in a position to do so. I will be making recommendations about the technical and commercial parameters for the allocation. Minister Sharples and I are also presenting a paper with recommendations about what response the Government should make to Māori expressed interest in the 700 MHz band and, more broadly, in radio spectrum. That paper is in the final stages of writing.

Although Cabinet has yet to decide, I advised you in good faith that I am recommending against any change to the long-standing government policy that spectrum is not a taonga.

As documented in your statement of position of 30 July 2012, the Government and Maori interests have had considerable engagement since the WAI 2224 claim was lodged and the Prime Minister first responded to the claimants.

However it appears to me we have a fundamental difference of views, which we have been unable to resolve through all of our engagements since 2009.

Yours sincerely



Hon Amy Adams
Minister for Communications and Information Technology