

Meagan Walters

From: Mere Kepa <tkep001@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 15 December 2025 2:03 pm
To: District Plan Review
Cc: Mina Henare; Marina Fletcher; Lynsey Fletcher; F Kemp; Victoria Kurupo
Subject: Re: KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL AND OPPOSTION TO GMO

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Yes, thank you.

Noho ora mai na Mere

Suspiro ergo sum, I sigh, therefore I am.

A sigh isn't just a sigh. We inhale the world and breathe out our meaning. While we can. While we can.

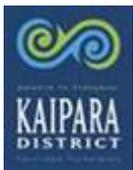
On Mon, Dec 15, 2025 at 1:55 PM District Plan Review <districtplanreview@kaipara.govt.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Mere

Thank you for your email – is this a Further Submission?

Ngā mihi

Meagan



Meagan Walters | Planning Administrator

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In the Office =

| Working from home =

Rāhina	Rātū	Rāapa	Rāpare	Rāmere
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

From: Mere Kepa <tkep001@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, 13 December 2025 12:10 pm

To: District Plan Review <districtplanreview@kaipara.govt.nz>; Mina Henare <minahenare2@gmail.com>; Marina Fletcher <marinafletcher12@gmail.com>; Lynsey Fletcher <lynseyrulz@gmail.com>; F Kemp <fkemp@uriohau.co.nz>; Victoria Kurupo <W1k1toria@hotmail.com>

Subject: KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL AND OPPOSTION TO GMO

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FYI

Noho ora mai na Mere

Suspiro ergo sum, I sigh, therefore I am.

A sigh isn't just a sigh. We inhale the world and breathe out our meaning. While we can. While we can.

The Gene Tech Bill introduced by the National-led Government proposes radically deregulating genetic engineering (GE) in Aotearoa

E: districtplanreview@kaipara.govt.nz

Deadline: Monday, 5pm, 15 December 2025

Tena koutou katoa,

I oppose the introduction of the Gene Tech Bill. I support the farming families who are operating the valuable enterprise near the Tangihua hills closeby the boundary of the Kaipara and Whangarei District Councils. Like these farming families I am aware of all the vectors for GE/GMO contamination.

Further, Aaron Smale wrote on 19 October 2025 that:

The coalition's attitude to Maori swings between outright hostility and pretending they don't exist. They've been laser-focused on erasing Maori rights and interests in law as one path to shoring up votes. (Source: <https://e-tangata.co.nz/comment-and-analysis/giving-yourself-an-uppercut/>)

Consequently, I support the critique of the Gene Tech Bill by the Te Pati Maori. The Luxon government wants to remove the Genetic Engineering (GE) safeguards and permit Genetically Modified Organisms free in nature with no risk assessments, no oversight, no tracking, and no accountability. The Te Pati Maori can never support the National-led government permitting GE experiments to be done outside of a laboratory and with no expert supervision.

Under the current law, genetic experiments in medical research are permitted in a controlled laboratory. The bill, however, would give the go ahead to foreign venture capitalists to use this country as their testing ground for risky GE experiments that are not permitted elsewhere. The circumstance is too risky for the Te Pati Maori to support. The bill undermines Te Tiriti o Waitangi, by failing to involve Maori in decisions that could have long-term impacts on us and the ecosystems of Aotearoa.

I commend the farming families' opposition as well as the Te Pati Maori for protecting Ranginui, Papatuanuku and their children, nature, public health, and the country's global reputation as a GE-free nation. Coexistence between GE and non-GE systems is impossible in practice. The party's leadership helps to protect the land, livelihoods, and export credibility of both Maori and non-Maori farmers.

Finally, I call on Kaipara District Council to prioritise robust protections for human health and nature, transparent regulation, and consumer choice in any future reform of gene technology law.

Naku noa na Mere
(Dr) T. Mere. A. Kepa



Te Parawhau Hapu, Te Tai Tokerau

Kaitiaki, Wai 3481 - the Fast-Track Approvals Act (Kepa) Claim

Kaitiaki, Project Jonah volunteer 14815, 2025

Kaitiaki, voluntary Pest Strategy: Takahiwai Hills and Forest. Est. 2017

Chair, Takahiwai Maori Committee. Est. 1977

Chair, Kopuawaiwaha 2B2 Ahu Whenua Trust. Est. 1949

Chair, Te Poupouwhenua Trust. Est. 2025

Former Trustee: Tataiahape Marae, Ngati Raka o Ngai Tuhoe, Waimana, Te Urewera. 2025-1998

13 October 2025