

In the matter of: Proposed National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land

And: *Hinemoa Quality Producers Ltd*
Submitter

And: **Ministry for Primary Industries**
P O Box 2526
Wellington 6140

Contact: *Chris and Vikki Nicholson*
Hinemoa Quality Producers Ltd



Submission on Proposed National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land

Dated: 07 October 2019

1. This submission is on behalf of Hinemoa Quality Producers Ltd in relation to Ministry for the Environment and Ministry for Primary Industries proposed National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land. Hinemoa Quality Producers Ltd will gain no competitive advantage through the lodgement of this submission.
2. Hinemoa Quality Producers is a 3rd generation commercial vegetable growing family business located in Pukekawa, North Waikato. Our main crops are potatoes, onions and barley with a small amount of dry stock for run off areas. We are passionate about our product, the quality and sustainability of the land and our ability to nurture it for future generations.
3. In 2012 we entered the Ballance Farm Environment awards and won the Waikato Region Supreme Award, the first vegetable growers to achieve this. We opened up our business to scrutiny from a panel of judges who had a range of criteria particularly around environmental sustainability and methods we were using to combat nitrogen leaching, soil erosion and water quality. Judges comments included "Soils highly valued, great understanding of physical and nutrient requirements." "Excellent understanding around water use and capture of nutrients; silt traps an integral part of sustainability of business." These comments were made 7 years ago and my point is, we as growers have been proactive in our approach to looking after our highly productive land for years, we are invested in it. We ask the ministry to consider that we need flexibility around crop rotation and land use change to remain sustainable both environmentally and economically.