



Environment Institute  
of Australia and  
New Zealand

# LEADING THE WAVE OF CHANGE

ARATAKINA TE NGARU O TE HURINGA

EIANZ 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

17 - 19 October 2023 | Auckland, NZ

Muriwai Beach, Auckland

## PRESENTATION | A PARTNERSHIP WITH MANA WHENUA - A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO ROTORUA'S LONG TERM WATER SUPPLIES

### ABSTRACT

Rotorua is a city in the Bay of Plenty region of New Zealand's North Island and is a famous tourist destination. Hidden in the Whakarewarewa forest, close to popular mountain biking tracks, are two crystal clear springs that supply drinking water to the eastern area of the city. The Waipā and Hemo Springs and Puarenga Stream have significant cultural value to Māori.

Rotorua Lakes Council holds resource consents to take water from the Waipā and Hemo Springs, and two other large spring fed drinking water supplies. All the consents require replacement. A change in mindset was required to ensure positive outcomes and learn from the past.

There are currently no limits in the consents about how much water needs to remain in the downstream water bodies to maintain the "health and wellbeing" and protect mauri, or life force, of the water, but this is expected to change in the future.

The Waipā and Hemo Springs resource consent application was prepared in true partnership with mana whenua representatives. The aspirations for the sustainable use of drinking water from the Waipā and Hemo Springs need to be defined, and building these into a lasting resource consent document is a challenge, particularly in the context of the other activities in the Puarenga catchment and the changing regulatory environment on the horizon. It is vital that iwi and hapū are involved in managing and protecting these precious taonga in the years to come, long after the resource consent has been granted.

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY



### CLARE MAGINNESS

Clare is a Technical Director in Water Resources with PDP. Over the past 20 years she has delivered successful projects, both large and small scale, that address the challenges faced in New Zealand including protection and improvement of water quality, sustainable resource allocation and the development of water supplies. For the past six years, a primary focus of her work has been working in partnership with iwi and hapū in the management and sustainable use of water.

Clare grew up in the south-east of England and graduated from Oxford University with a degree in Geology after which she completed her Masters degree in Water Resources Technology and Management at the University of Birmingham. She met and married a New Zealander in the UK and moved here in 2010 and has made Rotorua her home.