

**IN THE MATTER of
the Resource Management Act 1991**

AND

**IN THE MATTER of
Hearing of submissions and further
submissions on the Proposed Te Tai O
Poutini Plan**

**MINUTE 29 – Buller Coalfield Zone at
Ngakawau**

INTRODUCTION

1. During the Mineral Extraction Hearing on the 28th of May 2024, the Hearing Panel heard from Mr Mark Pitchfork who owns a property at 5 Ratcliff Road in Ngakawau. Mr Pitchfork's property is the northern most of two residential sized sections within a triangular shaped area of General Rural Zone land in the Proposed Te Tai O Poutini Plan (pTTPP). The area and sections are shown in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1

2. Adjoining Mr Pitchfork's land in close proximity to both the east and west is the Buller Coalfield Zone (BCZ).
3. At the hearing Mr Pitchfork expressed concern about the proximity of the BCZ to his property and the potential for mining activity to take place on the area of BCZ to the east. He essentially sought for the BCZ to be removed from this area, in particular in proximity to his property.
4. The Hearing Panel noted that this area contains a road leading up to a station on the Stockton Mines aerial coal transfer system.

5. The Hearing Panel is seeking from Bathurst Resources Limited and BT Mining Limited (Bathurst) an understanding of the purpose of the BCZ in this location. In particular, we would like to understand whether there is any intention for mining to take place in this area or is the BCZ similarly providing for the access road as an ancillary facility to the Stockton Mine, in which case could the zone boundary be refined?
6. The Hearing Panel is seeking some clarification on this matter when Bathurst appears at the Stage 2 Mineral Extraction Hearing on the 12th of June 2024.



Dean Chrystal

Independent Commissioner – Chair - on behalf of the Hearing Panel members

29 May 2024