

## Privatisation of New Zealand's Seas?

Appalled at the shabby and undemocratic bullying by Government, the Coastal Coalition continues fighting for justice with a petition for a Citizens Initiated Referendum (CIR) on restoring Crown ownership of the foreshore and seabed.

### Why keep fighting this battle?

#### A. Corrupt process:

- Short submission time (3 weeks); cursory treatment of non-Maori.
- Racially prejudiced - Select Committee with voting rights were 100% of Maori descent.
- Politicians blatantly misled the public; Media shutdown opposition.
- Unprecedented number of submissions; 90% against; 90% ignored.
- Attorney General Chris Finlayson's conflict of interest with Nga Tahu.

#### B. Shoddy & unconstitutional:

- Preferential laws for people of any Maori descent, including the privileged or "mostly white" Maori.
- Undefined Maori terms means claim thresholds are a farce.
- Claims not proven in High Court – Iwi can gain control of the sea by secret, political negotiation.
- Government can now exchange coastal assets for Maori votes at will.
- Taxpayers responsible for all claim expenses & any demands Maori make on "elected" local government (like Auckland City Council's Maori Advisory Board).
- Iwi able to on-sell coastal "rights" to foreigners (or even wealthy politicians).
- 3 levels of Maori "management" control New Zealand's entire coastline.

#### C. Damaging ramifications:

- Privatisation of coast and minerals for Iwi. Crown loses potential of \$trillions from offshore mining which could pay for health, education and welfare.
- Public access can be denied by "wahi tapu" for superstitious or religious claims; public fined up to \$5,000.
- Coastal businesses beholden to whims of Iwi - absolutely no right of appeal or arbitration.
- Claims already being negotiated for popular areas (settlements unlikely to be announced prior to election!)
- Entrenching of feudalism, restricting options for Maori underprivileged. Elite leaders benefit; little flow-on to the ordinary Maori person.
- Coastal lifestyles restricted, relationships harmed. Tourists turned off.
- Confusion and arguments determining which Iwi or individuals have control over what.

### So who really loses from this legislation?

ALL NEW ZEALANDERS LOSE! It contradicts everything good about our country i.e. **one law for all**, egalitarianism, democracy, racial harmony, free and easy coastal recreation, sound economics, established and proven legal process.

**Government mustn't be allowed to harm New Zealand's future in this way.**

Whether you can gather 2 or 200 signatures, the Coastal Coalition needs your help please download and print a Referendum Form from [www.CoastalCoalition.co.nz](http://www.CoastalCoalition.co.nz)