

Submit against Fast-Track by midnight Friday 19 April

The government is trying to ram a new law through Parliament, which would clear the way for corporations to mine, drill, build and extract resources in Aotearoa [without any input from experts or the public](#). This is an attack on nature, democracy, and Te Tiriti.

If passed, the bill would overrule 10 different Acts including the Conservation Act, Reserves Act, and Wildlife Act, with the public and environmental groups completely excluded from having a say - or even knowing those applications are happening. These projects could include:

- New mines on conservation land near you 🚩
- Large irrigation dams, enabling intensive dairy to ramp up 🐄
- Waste incinerator plants 🏭
- Seabed Mining ❌
- Highways 🛣️
- Projects negatively impacting Treaty settlements 🗿

We need to fight this bill, and fight for the right to a democratic consultation process for decisions which affect our communities. 🙌 **Submissions close 11.59pm Friday, 19 April.**

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HOW

[Fill out the online survey submission](#). You can use the template below to help you write it, but your personal stories & feelings are also effective.

Bonus actions:

- Do an oral submission: select “yes” on the online survey above for making an oral submission to the committee. These are short speeches that you make in person or via video call, and they are the most high impact.
- Write a [letter to your MP](#), or email the submission to en@parliament.govt.nz

If you want a bit more info/inspo:

- [Video explainer of the bill by 350 Aotearoa & Action Station](#)
- [Written explainer \(ft. diagrams\) by RNZ](#)
- [FAQs by Forest & Bird](#)
- [Greenpeace's submission](#)
- [Webinar by the Environmental Defence Society](#) & [their detailed submission](#)

Thank you [350 Aotearoa](#) for co-writing, and the submission guides of [Forest & Bird](#), [EDS](#) & [GoEcoWaikato](#) for inspo!

✨ TEMPLATE

*Please note: these are draft submission points/ideas. **Your own words (even if short) are by far the most effective - this is just a guide for ideas on what you could say.***

Hi, my name is [NAME] and [insert personal story about why you think we shouldn't burn the planet into a steaming hothouse earth and kill every species in our precious country].

Examples:

- I want a liveable world
- I care about democratic rights - and believe communities impacted by projects deserve a say, but this bill will remove that right
- I am worried about our ecosystems which are already collapsing, and we depend on them for our food and water
- I want to protect more species from becoming extinct because...
- I'm concerned about this attack on Te Tiriti O Waitangi because...

I strongly oppose the Fast Track Amendment Bill because...

*{Please choose some options, and **reword them**, so they do not count all our submissions as one}.*

- This bill explicitly prioritises corporate interests, over protection of nature and people.. It rides roughshod over almost all of the country's environmental protections that have been established over the last four decades. Both people and the economy rely on a healthy environment - and this bill poses a serious risk to New Zealand's environment. It is clear that we need to be taking much better care of the environment and impacting it less.
- The Bill bears almost no resemblance to existing fast track processes. It places excessive and unfettered powers to approve projects in the hands of development Ministers - and the destructive industries who are lobbying them.
- The Bill may also be a breach of New Zealand's fair-trade agreements, including with the UK and Europe. These agreements require that the Government uphold environmental protections and act in line with the Paris Agreement.

If the bill proceeds, it is critical that the bill is amended to include the following dimensions. We note that even with the amendments, the bill is still massively damaging for nature, Te Tiriti and democracy.

- This bill **must** require public notification and consultation within time frames adequate for consideration, scrutiny and submissions, and in any case, not less than 25 working days for public comment and input.
- The bill **needs** to affirm and honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This means:
 - The text of Te Tiriti itself must be upheld in the purpose of the Bill

- Iwi will self-determine and select representation representatives for the Expert Review Panel, as well as any other component of the decision-making process e.g. hearings
- There must not be restrictions on communication with Māori communities. This means Iwi representatives must be permitted to share information and conduct community hearings to seek hapū and iwi expertise and perspectives in order to fulfil their obligations as representatives
- The phrase 'The iwi authority must not unreasonably withhold their agreement to that arrangement.' must be removed.
- The Bill must protect Indigenous rights by:
 - All references to the protection of 'customary rights' must be removed and replaced with protection of the rights of hapū, as affirmed in He Whakaputanga and protected in Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and in alignment with international standards outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- The Minister of the Environment must be listed as a member of the decision making group of Ministers.
- Consenting decisions cannot be made by only three representatives. This process must be replaced by a resource management framework that enables New Zealand industry to operate in a sustainable way. Enabling development and protecting the environment can be compatible. Projects rammed through under the Bill will not have sustainable social licence. This is bad for economic confidence.

You can find out our full briefing on the Bill and Te Tiriti O Waitangi [here](#).

I wish to remain anonymous in my submission. *{Optional: we recommend submitting with your name}.*

I wish to be heard in support of my submission. *{Optional: We strongly recommend you ask to be heard - this gives weight to your submission. You can always pull out later! 350 will be offering oral submission trainings, after submissions close.}*

Thanks for taking action! 💖

Want more quick climate actions? Join [Climate Club](#) for weekly emails of climate actions made for busy people, and get involved with 350 Aotearoa [here](#).

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