

**Organisation:**

Toka Tū Ake EQC

**First name:** Jo

**Last name:** Horrocks

**Postal address:**

**Suburb:**

**City:**

**Country:** New Zealand

**Email:** resilience@eqc.govt.nz

**Daytime Phone:**

☐ I could

☒ I could not

Gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission

☐ I am

☒ I am not

directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that :

a. adversely affects the environment, and

b. does not relate to the trade competition or the effects of trade competitions.

Note to person making submission:

If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991

**Would you like to present your submission in person at a hearing?**

I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that the following submission be fully considered.

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**Consultation Document Submissions**

Plan Change 41 - Removal of Fault lines

☐ Support

☒ Oppose

☐ Seek amendment

**Relief sought**

***What decision are you seeking from the Council? What action would you like: Retain? Delete? Amend?***

Toka Tū Ake EQC request that the Taupō District Council retain regulatory fault overlay maps in the district plan, as well as all rules in the district plan that pertain to the fault hazard overlay. We request that Taupō District Council follow the recommendations of GNS Science in Litchfield et al's (2020) report *Active fault*

*hazards in the Taupō district*, and replace the fault lines in the operative Taupō District Plan with the new and more accurate fault lines mapped in said report.

## Reasons

### ***Include reason(s) for your submission point***

Toka Tū Ake EQC is a Crown Entity responsible for providing insurance to residential property owners against the impact of natural hazards. We also invest in and facilitate research and education about natural hazards, and methods of reducing or preventing natural hazard damage.

The contingent liability associated with natural hazard risk in New Zealand is high and is carried, in large part, by Toka Tū Ake on behalf of the Crown. Toka Tū Ake therefore has a strong interest in reducing risk from, and building resilience to, natural hazards in New Zealand.

The proposal to remove the regulatory fault overlays from the Taupō District Plan and remove the requirement for development to occur at least 20 m away from these faults, is contrary to advice in MfE's Active Fault Guidelines<sup>[1]</sup>. We consider that this change weakens the provisions in the district plan to minimise the risk from earthquakes to people and property in the Taupō District. We agree with the advice from MfE and GNS Science in their 2020 consultancy report on Taupō faults. This advice states that regulatory natural hazard overlays in district plans, are important in ensuring that development in the district accurately and consistently considers the risk from natural hazards. Freely available planning maps also serve as a tool to educate residents and potential property buyers about the hazards which may exist on, or near their property. While this information is usually included in LIM reports, these can be inconsistent, may not reflect current updates in the science, and the format of technical writing can be difficult to understand for lay-people.

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[1] <https://environment.govt.nz/publications/planning-for-development-of-land-on-or-close-to-active-faults-a-guideline-to-assist-resource-management-planners-in-new-zealand/>

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## Attached Documents

File
Appendix D to the Section 32 – GNS Active Faults Report
planning for development around faults MfE