



21 November 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

**RE: Results from the soil testing at the Moanataiari subdivision**

I want to thank you for your patience during the sampling and testing over the last few weeks.

Unfortunately, the tests have revealed we have higher than expected levels of naturally forming arsenic within the soil on the site (this is not a chemical used in mining). Arsenic is found naturally in the rocks that would have been used in the reclamation of the subdivision.

You will be as surprised as I am with the results, but please be assured we are working extremely hard with the Waikato Regional Council, the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) and our District Health Board (DHB) to ensure that we protect the health of our residents and to remedy this situation as fast as we can.

In this envelope you will find a full information pack containing important health advice, the soil testing results and analysis, as well as an outline of the next steps we need to take. If you follow the advice contained in this information pack, the health risks can be minimised significantly.

Given the urgency and importance of this announcement, I have called a Moanataiari residents meeting for tomorrow, where experts from the Thames-Coromandel District Council, Waikato Regional Council and the DHB will be able to fully brief you. We will also take you through all of the soil results from all of the test sites.

If you can't make the meeting, we will post the highlights and any new information at [www.tcdc.govt.nz/moanataiari](http://www.tcdc.govt.nz/moanataiari)

Here are the meeting details:

**Moanataiari Residents Meeting**

5.30pm, Tuesday 22 November at the Thames Civic Centre, Corner of Mary and Queen Streets

As Mayor of this District, I want to reassure you that you have the full commitment of this Council and the other agencies involved to sort this out; however in the short term it will take time to work through the issues and more patience will be required. We are confident that if you follow the health advice, you and your family can remain safe while further testing occurs and management and remediation plans are quickly developed.

If you are renting your house, we will also be sending this information to your landlord or the owner of the property.

I hope to see you at the meeting tomorrow where we can talk through the issues together, in the meantime please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn Leach'.

Mayor Glenn Leach, JP

**Important Contact Information:**

- For general enquiries please contact Sam Napia, Group Manager Environmental Services, Ph: 07-868-0253, [sam.napia@tcdd.govt.nz](mailto:sam.napia@tcdd.govt.nz) or Benjamin Day, Communications Manager; Ph: 07-868-0253 [ben.day@tcdd.govt.nz](mailto:ben.day@tcdd.govt.nz) or please visit [www.tcdd.govt.nz/moanataiari](http://www.tcdd.govt.nz/moanataiari)
- For soil testing and scientific related enquiries please contact Dominique Noiton, Programme Manager Water, Air & Waste or Dr Nick Kim from the Waikato Regional Council on 0800 800 401.
- For general public health enquiries please contact the Health Protection Unit on 07-838-2569
- For personal health enquiries please contact your local GP or Medical Centre; they have been briefed by the District Health Board and will be able to assist you with personal health enquiries.