Executive Summary – Maree Kleinlangevelsloo

My name is Maree Kleinlangevelsloo. I am the Senior Planner at Kāi Tahu ki Otago Limited (KTKO Ltd), where I have been working part-time since 2012. I worked with Dunedin City Council planner Emma Christmas on the development of the wāhi tūpuna overlay and related provisions for the proposed Second Generation Dunedin City District Plan.

Ngā Rūnanga support the provisions in Chapter 5: Tangata Whenua of this District Plan that provide for the mapping of wāhi tūpuna. I note that a placeholder has been included in Chapter 26 (Historic Heritage) for this mapping (Section 26.11 - Sites of Significance for Māori).

Wāhi tūpuna (sometimes known as cultural or ancestral landscapes) are landscapes and places that embody the relationship of Ngāi Tahu and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga. The term refers to places that hold the respect of the people in accordance with tikanga.

While the term 'cultural landscapes' has been used in the past, these areas are considered distinct from natural landscapes that are protected under section 6(b) of the Act. While natural landscapes may include and be enriched by historical and cultural values, 'cultural landscapes' may be highly modified sites with strong historical connections, and are significant in terms of section 6(e). Their identification and assessment considers different factors to natural landscapes. For this reason, I recommend they are treated separately from the natural landscapes identified within the plan, and are referred to as 'wāhi tūpuna' — ancestral places which continue to have contemporary significance. Having said that, a number of wāhi tūpuna overlap with natural landscapes, as the landforms around which they are based are significant to both Ngāi Tahu and the wider community.

In addition to urupā, physical resources such as landforms, mountains and ranges, wetlands, waterways and lakes are examples of wāhi tūpuna. The places of significance to Ngā Rūnanga are not limited to places of significance identified in the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, and included on Proposed Map 40.

The process proposed for mapping wāhi tūpuna in the Queenstown Lakes district involves Ngā Rūnanga representatives:

(a) Marking up all sites of importance on maps, as the basis for a District Plan overlay.