



Innovative Māori Geothermal Development Partnership

Tauhara North No.2 Trust and Mercury NZ

Reflections on the 26 year journey

Innovative Geothermal Partnership

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- Partnership is 26 years and counting
- Shared principles
 - Trust
 - Kaitiakitanga (stewardship)
 - Sustainable development
- Innovative and equitable
- What's best for both parties



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- Ahu Whenua Land Trust
- Represents over 900 whanau
- Early pioneers in geothermal development
- Wide range of commercial interests

- List NZX/ASX electricity generator and retailer
- Produce electricity from 100% renewable sources: hydro, geothermal and wind
- 10 TWh annual generation

Joint owners and partnership that manages over 300MW of geothermal generation in New Zealand across the Rotokawa and Nga Tamariki fields

Foundational Geothermal Partnership Story

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1993

First geothermal
development
consents at
Rotokawa



1998

First geothermal
power station
Rotokawa online
(24MW)

2000

Rotokawa Joint
Venture
established
(50:50)

2010

Ngā Awa Pūrua power
station online (140MW)
Joint Venture
established (25:75)



2013

Ngā Tamariki
power station
online (85MW)



2026

Ngā Tamariki
power station
extension OEC5
(50MW)

Our People and Key Moments

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Mercury



World Geothermal Congress 2026, Calgary 8 – 11 June

Classification: General

Successful Joint Venture Principles

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- **What is best for both parties**
- **Fairness and listening**
- **Balance sustainability and risk**
- **Pathways to equity**
- **Growth options**



Operating Model

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- **Reservoir joint approach**
- **People and staff connection**
- **Link to whenua (land)**
- **Long term performance**
- **Cultural awareness and respect**



Outcomes

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- **Real value creation 300+ MW**
- **Māori geothermal leadership**
- **Knowledge and training**
- **Long term plan**



Global Blueprint For Prosperity

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Indigenous Leadership & Integrity

- Our partnership highlights true Indigenous leadership that balances cultural integrity with commercial success in geothermal projects

Renewable Energy Development Model

- Our approach offers lessons on accelerating renewable energy through rights recognition, benefit sharing, and the importance of strong governance.

Inspires Global Energy Transition

- Our partnership exemplifies how Mātauranga Māori and modern engineering can coalesce into a model for sustainable geothermal development



Geothermal Indigenous People's Declaration – October 2024



Tauhara North No.2 Trust and Mercury would like to acknowledge the contributions from all past and present whanau, staff, trustees, directors and representatives that have helped to create this long-standing partnership

**Nga Mihi
Thank you**

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