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## **Factsheet: Pike River Recovery Agency | Te Kahui Whakamana Rua Tekau ma Iwa**

**Agency's objectives:** The agency's objectives are to conduct a manned recovery of the mine drift in order to:

- gather evidence to assist in ascertaining what occurred at Pike River Coal Mine leading up to and on 19 November 2010 and subsequently, in order to assist in preventing future mining tragedies and in promoting accountability for this mining tragedy;
- to give victims' loved ones overdue closure and peace of mind; and
- if possible recover any human remains.

**Re-entry and recovery of Pike River Mine drift:** The drift is a 2.3 km access tunnel from the mine portal to the mine workings. Access to the mine workings is blocked by a large rock fall at the very end of the drift. All but 400 metres of the drift has been explored using remote methods. Re-entry into and recover of the drift would establish if there are any human remains located in the unexplored 400 metres and would enable examination of the equipment and infrastructure that is also located in this area.

**Estimated cost of Pike River Recovery Agency and re-entry:** \$7.67 million per annum, or up to \$23 million over three years (including up to \$4 million of existing funding).

**Date of establishment of new agency:** 31 January 2018 by Order in Council (legislation not required). An Establishment Unit within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment is in place and will set up the agency.

**Agency Chief Executive:** The State Services Commission is to recruit the chief executive.

**Timeline for re-entry:** We have planned on the agency creating and executing a plan for complete recovery of the drift by the end of March 2019. However, the agency will develop a more precise timeline as part of its planning as timing will depend very much on the technical assessment.

**Ownership and management of Pike River Mine:** The agency will take over Pike River assets from Solid Energy by the time it enters liquidation in mid-March 2018. The agency will maintain mine infrastructure, manage ongoing mine safety and mine safety while work on re-entry is undertaken. It will seal the mine (with a reversible seal) and rehabilitate the site once work on re-entry is complete. The site will then return to the Department of Conservation for ongoing stewardship, including the planned Pike29 Memorial Track as part of the Paparoa National Park.

**Mana whenua:** Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae (Ngāi Tahu) have gifted the agency the Te Reo Māori name Te Kahui Whakamana Rua Tekau ma Iwa, which can be shortened to Te Kahui Whakamana 29. It is interpreted as 'The Empowering Voice for the Pike 29'. Ngāti Waewae are kaitiaki of Pike River in the Atarau region.