



Mining Act Amendment Act 1892

- Citation:** 56 V. No 47
- Date of Assent:** 11 October, 1892
- Commencement:** Date of Assent
- Repeal:** Repealed 1 February, 1899 by 1898, No 38
- Amendments:** –
- Type of Legislation:** Public
- Subject:** Mining
Maori Land Court: Structures & Jurisdiction
Alienation of Maori Land
- Relevant Sections:**
- s3(2):* Amends *s71(1)* Mining Act 1891, rent to be paid for licensed holdings on Native land to be 1 shilling per annum per acre. The license holder shall take out miners' rights to the value of 20 shillings per man and the revenue shall be paid to the Native owners.
- s16:* On investigation of title or partition the NLCT may, on application of the Governor with the consent of a majority of owners, declare any Native land to be ceded to the Crown for mining purposes upon the terms and conditions agreed upon between the Governor and the majority of Native owners.
- s17:* Rights of the Crown under the Ohinemuri Goldfields deed of cession not to be affected by the extinguishment of Native title.
- Commentary:** Section 3 was objected to at first by the Maori members as it makes the rental for mining land very low, but Seddon explained that the section would actually work to the benefit of the Maori owners because previously the miners' rights were paid to local bodies. Now the miners' rights are to be paid to the Native owners, so the rent is reduced to a nominal amount. There was much Debate about section 16 because Seddon tried to have it changed so that an order ceding land to the Crown could be made if there were no objections from a majority of the owners. The Maori members were quite insistent that land should only be ceded with the prior consent of the owners as agreed between the Governor and themselves. In this case the Maori MPs had the support of the Opposition and were able to force Seddon to agree.
- Cross Reference:** NZPD vol 78 (1892) 383 - 385, 428 - 432, 473 - 475, 730 - 732.