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Stating their claim

By **STEPHEN FORBES**

Maori awaiting Waitangi Tribunal hearings relating to land at Harbourview South and Spinnaker Reserve are battling with the Waitakere City Council over a sign.

Te Atatu resident Haare Tukariri says the public should know that land on the Te Atatu Peninsula foreshore is part of an outstanding

Waitangi Tribunal claim. Mr Tukariri has put up a sign with fellow claimant Gill Parker at the Harbourview site to replace one previously removed by the council which said it was illegal.

"The issue we are bringing to the community is that the land is under a Waitangi Tribunal claim," says Mr Tukariri.

"I don't think we need permission to put up a

sign on land that's ours. They've got lawyers signs and butchers signs up, ours should take priority," he says.

Waitakere City Council spokesman Wally Thomas says the sign shouldn't have been put up in the first place.

"It's in breach of by-laws," Mr Thomas says.

"The land is not for sale, therefore Mr Tukariri's sign should say, buyers don't bother. Mr Tukariri doesn't own the land the people of Waitakere do."

Mr Thomas says other signs on the property are paid for and have resource consent.

He says anyone is allowed to put up a sign as long as it is advertising an event.

"Clearly this isn't and therefore it will be removed."

The Te Atatu claim was lodged with the Waitangi Tribunal in 2000 and registered on May 18 this year.



SIGN LANGUAGE: Haare Tukariri, Gill Parker, Lillian Martin, Rongo Maihi and supporters say the sign should stay.

Photo: CHRIS HOULT

WL pgl

Te Atatu Peninsula - Development - Harbourview