

Media Release
Kerikeri, Wednesday 12 October 2011



Media Release – Prime Minister opens new Top Energy - Phone Plus office in Kaikohe

Prime Minister John Key visited Kaikohe on Friday 7th October to view the Top Energy Ngawha geothermal power station and to open the new Phone*plus* contact centre (call centre) offices.

“It was a real honour that the Prime Minister could spend the morning with us, discussing our operations and the employment opportunities that we’re creating in the Far North,” says Top Energy Group Chief Executive Russell Shaw.

The Prime Minister flew into Kerikeri Airport around 9am and was given a tour of the Top Energy Ngawha geothermal power station, accompanied by local National Party Candidate Mike Sabin, and Ngawha Generation Manager Les Parker.

The visit included an overview of the power station facility and a discussion on its critical role in supplying electricity to the Far North.

The Prime Minister then travelled to Kaikohe where he officially opened the new Phone*plus* offices on Station Road, hosted by Top Energy Chairman Paul Byrnes and Phone*plus* General Manager Kathryn Starr.

“The Prime Minister’s visit reinforced the value of creating local jobs through sustainable business,” says Starr. “It was a proud moment for us, as we value the role that we play in the Far North community and plan to continue growing.”

Around 45 community guests and Phone*plus* employees met the Prime Minister as he attended the opening and walked around the new contact centre.

Russell Shaw presented the Prime Minister with a Tall Poppy trophy, saying it was a symbol of business excellence in the Far North and a gift from the company in appreciation opening the new centre.

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