[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[City, Postal Code]
[Email Address]

[Date]

Hon David Seymour

Ministry for Regulation
PO Box 577

Wellington

6140

Dear Minister,

I am writing to express my strong support for the development of the industrial hemp (iHemp) industry in Aotearoa New Zealand and to urge the government to take decisive steps to remove iHemp from the Misuse of Drugs Act (1975) and the Medicines Act (1981).

iHemp is not a drug. Its inclusion under these legislative frameworks creates unnecessary regulatory barriers for a product that offers significant economic, environmental, and community benefits. By continuing to regulate iHemp as a controlled substance, we are stifling the growth of an industry that has the potential to contribute to a more resilient, sustainable, and diversified circular economy.

In our region, iHemp could create new jobs and boost rural economies, while supporting a transition to environmentally friendly farming practices. iHemp requires less water, fewer agricultural chemicals, and contributes to soil health, making it an excellent crop in a farmer’s rotation. Furthermore, developing a domestic iHemp industry could strengthen supply chains for various products, including food, textiles, pulp & paper and construction materials, while also reducing our reliance on imports.

To fully unlock the potential of iHemp, and realise a new billion-dollar primary industry, we need a regulatory framework that enables rather than hinders this industry. I respectfully ask that you support efforts to remove industrial hemp from the Misuse of Drugs Act and Medicines Act, allowing the industry to thrive without unnecessary legal constraints.

By removing these outdated restrictions, the government can play a key role in fostering innovation and economic growth, in this new bio-based sustainable industry. Globally the iHemp industry has had double digit+ compound annual growth rates for over ten years, which is an exciting trend, particularly when combined with the ability to sequester carbon and soak up nitrogen, we have a win-win situation for the economy and environment.

I would be grateful for your support for a progressive and forward-looking approach to iHemp in New Zealand.

Will You support, low THC iHemp to become a new primary industry for Aotearoa/New Zealand?

Ngā mihi nui,

[Your Name]

Copy to: admin@nzhia.com

reviews@regulation.govt.nz