

Museum of New Zealand
Te Papa Tongarewa

Cable St
PO Box 467
Wellington
New Zealand

Telephone
64-4-381 7000
Facsimile
64-4-381 7070
mail@tepapa.govt.nz
www.tepapa.govt.nz

16 July 2008

Dr Desmond Darby
General Manager Strategy
GNS Science
P O Box 30368
Lower Hutt 5040



Dear Des

Undersea Volcanoes: Earth's final frontier?

Te Papa is very pleased to confirm the public interest in the deep ocean, and GNS Science's ability to deliver a first hand account of one of the deep ocean's most fascinating features – undersea volcanoes.

We are also most fortunate to have one of the best specimens of a 'black smoker', a volcanic chimney from deep under the sea, recovered in one of their scientific expeditions in a submersible. This is a highlight of our NatureSpace, a discovery space for families. Based on the interest in this and other audience surveys, we have also chosen to work with GNS Science on a deep-ocean motion simulator ride to explore the undersea volcanoes.

The scientific adviser for both of these Te Papa experiences was Dr Cornel de Ronde, a Principal Scientist at GNS Science, who made a leading contribution to their development. He will take on the same role for the Undersea Volcanoes touring exhibition.

GNS Science has been our partner for over ten years, providing the scientific advice behind our highly successful Awesome Forces exhibition. We are therefore pleased to wish them every success with their new proposal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seddon'.

Seddon Bennington
Chief Executive