



**Office of Hon Pete Hodgson
MP for Dunedin North**

Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Tertiary Education
Minister of Research, Science and Technology

26 September 2008

Taking New Zealand Science to the world

As Minister of Research, Science and Technology, I am delighted to see GNS Science taking the opportunity to internationally showcase their world-class research into undersea volcanoes.

Volcanic, seismic and geothermal activity are very much a part of the New Zealand landscape and culture. This environment has underpinned the development of New Zealand's internationally renowned research and development capability in these areas.

As the Government-owned research institute that specialises in these areas, GNS Science is at the forefront of that expertise. The knowledge and experience that sits inside the organisation has seen it successfully undertake research, development and consultancy, both in New Zealand and overseas.

Undersea volcano research is a specific area where the organisation excels and the visual resources and material they have accumulated through their work is a fascinating resource. Their 40,000 images, video footage of previously unseen events and novel mineral samples are not only an important contribution to scientific discovery, but also a unique opportunity to reach out to a wider public audience.

I sincerely hope that such a valuable resource will get the chance to be shared around the world.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pete Hodgson'.

Hon Pete Hodgson
Minister of Research, Science and Technology

