



**Public money spent on promoting Ruatanihwa dam, to date (at February 2025)**

Date	Amount	Source	Comment
2018	\$7,000,000.00	Crown	Gift from the Crown Irrigation Acceleration Fund to HBRC to advance the Ruatanihwa Dam Source: <a href="#">Ruatanihwa Water Storage Scheme Review 2017</a> (ref. p. 15)
2018	\$19,500,000.00	HBRC	The cost to the Regional Council in developing the Ruatanihwa dam consents and IP, which was written down with the demise of the dam in 2018. Source: As above
2019	\$250,000.00	CHBDC	As part of the Annual Plan 2019-2020 the Council proposed gifting the Water Barons this amount as a 'suspensory loan', taken from the rural ward fund. However, in the face of an overwhelming number of ratepayer submissions opposing this, Council resolved to place this amount into a fund for 'water resilience'. Information obtained by WWU under LGOIMA shows this money is being incrementally used to promote the Ruatanihwa dam.
2020	\$58,375.35	CHBDC	The Council generously paid the Water Barons' science charges in 2020, amidst fierce ratepayer opposition, and resolved to make this a one-off payment.
2022	\$200,000.00	Centralines	This money, belonging to CHB power consumers, was gifted to WHHB by the Centralines Board without any public announcement. The Chair of the Board at the time was Ian Walker, Mayor Alex Walker's father, and a staunch advocate for the Ruatanihwa dam.
2023	\$296,666.82	HBRC	Dr Nic Peet (CEO) was delegated the authority by Council to consider a submission from the Water Barons for full remission of their outstanding science charges on grounds they couldn't exercise their water consents (which they knew when they purchased them in 2018). This amount (incl. GST) was remitted and represents a loss to ratepayers and taxpayers as it had to be made up by budget cuts. The amount of \$146,833.42 (incl. GST) was levied and paid in full.
2024	\$3,000,000.00	Crown	Shane Jones announces at Regional Growth Summit in Hastings a grant from the Regional Infrastructure Fund to develop the business case for the Ruatanihwa dam.
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$30,305,041.00</b>		