



TAKIAMA COMPANIES LTD
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PRESS RELEASE

10th August 2026

1. Takiama Companies Limited, the operator of 88.1 FM Letio 'a e Kakai, has received a notification from the Communications Commission dated 10 August 2026 under the Communications Act 2015. The Commission proposes to consider suspending or revoking the station's Network Operator Licence and FM Radio Transmitter Licence.
2. The station will respond to the Commission fully and in writing, within the time allowed. It will do so through the proper process provided by law, and not over the airwaves.
3. The station has asked the Commission to provide the specific words said to be defamatory, and of whom. That information has not yet been provided. No broadcaster can answer an allegation of this kind until it knows what is alleged.
4. The complete recording of the broadcast of Wednesday 5 August 2026 has been preserved.
5. The station stands ready to correct any factual error demonstrated to it, promptly and on air.
6. The station invites the Office of the Prime Minister, the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister, and any Minister who considers himself or herself affected, to appear on 88.1 FM at a time of their choosing, or to have their statement broadcast in full and unedited. That invitation is open now and remains open.
7. The Commission's notification and the press release of the Office of the Prime Minister bear the same date, 10 August 2026. The station has written to the Commission asking it to confirm the independence of its process, as section 22 of the Communications Act 2015 requires.
8. Freedom of the press is protected by clause 7 of the Constitution of Tonga. The Government's own statement of 10 August 2026 affirms the important role that independent journalism plays in a democratic society. 88.1 FM agrees, and will continue to serve the people of Tonga.

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