
MINUTE #23 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Clarification on elements of response from Applicant and timeframes

The Point Solar Farm [FTAA-2509-1100]

14 August 2026

[1] By way of background, this Minute #23 follows Minutes #20 and #22. Those Minutes approved the suspension of the Application until 28 August 2026, to allow the Applicant adequate time to prepare and submit a comprehensive response to the extensive comments received on ecological matters, and to engage further with s53 parties on proposed conditions. Minute #20 sets out the Panels' provisional view that the assessment of ecological effects, and the proposed effects management, remained notably deficient and Minute #22 specified the timetable for the Applicant's responses to Minute #20 and RFI #15 (dated 15 June 2025) with the suspensions sought by the Applicant as **12 noon on Monday 31 August 2026** and similarly for the Department of Conservation and mana whenua.

[2] This Minute #23 is intended to provide clarification of the Panel's expectations and highlight the limited time available to resolve issues, should the responses require this.

[3] In the Applicant's response to be provided, the Panel anticipates receiving:

- (a) a final mitigation package that includes responses to the questions set out in Minute #20;
- (b) updated technical assessments, agreed avifauna compensation plan, design of threatened plant surveys, adaptive management plans, and long term protection for predator fenced enclosure, as identified in the Applicant's response letter dated 19 July 2026;
- (c) complete updated sets of draft conditions, incorporating the various amendments put forward since 29 May 2026 and any changes resulting from

the updated information to be supplied or answers to questions. For any conditions that offer compensation, or works or actions outside the site, or rely on the actions of other parties, the conditions are to be accompanied by a clear statement that those conditions are offered on an *Augier* basis;

- (d) an updated set of plans for the proposed development reflecting any revised mitigation areas and any other adjustment arising from the information to be provided; and
- (e) clear statements explaining the extent and outcomes of engagement with the Department of Conservation and mana whenua. If any conditions rely on future actions of the Department or mana whenua, these are to be accompanied by a statement explaining whether the Department or mana whenua are agreeable with them.

[4] The Panel is very aware of the very limited number of further suspension days available for this Application. The timeframes for decision delivery are very tight. For the avoidance of doubt, the responses from the Department of Conservation and mana whenua on the matters specified in Minute #20 remain due on or before **12 noon 31 August 2026**.



Raynor Asher KC

The Point Solar Farm Expert Panel Chair