
TARANAKI VTM PROJECT
[FTAA-2504-1048]

MINUTE 36 OF THE EXPERT PANEL
Release of draft decision
(4 February 2026)

[1] In accordance with sections 69 and 72 of the FTAA, the Panel directs the EPA to release the Draft Decision to the Applicant and to the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti, and the Minister for Māori Development (the Ministers).

[2] The Ministers have 10 working days to provide comment on the Draft Decision in accordance with section 72(2) of the Act, which is by Thursday, 19 February 2026.

[3] We invite the Applicant to comment on the matters set out in section 69(2)(b) of the Act, namely to:

- (a) propose conditions on, or modifications to, any of the approvals sought;
- or
- (b) withdraw part of the application that seeks any of the approvals sought.

[4] The specific date set for receipt of the Applicant's comments is Thursday, 19 February 2026.

[5] The Panel directs the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to publish the Draft Decision on the Fast Track website.



Hon. Kit Toogood KC
Taranaki VTM Expert Panel chair