

**BEFORE THE PANEL CONVENER**

**FTAA-2603-1186**

**UNDER** the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**the FTAA**”)

**IN THE MATTER** of an application by **Ridgeburn Limited** for approvals under the FTAA for a referred project, Ridgeburn (“**Application**”)

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**STATEMENT OF PAUL ANDREW SMITH REGARDING QUALIFICATIONS AND  
EXPERIENCE**

22 JUNE 2026

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**STATEMENT OF PAUL ANDREW SMITH REGARDING QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

1. My full name is Paul Andrew Smith. I am a Senior Landscape Architect at Rough Milne Mitchell Landscape Architects, based in our Otautahi Christchurch and Hakatere Ashburton offices.
2. Along with my colleague Mr Tony Milne the Landscape Assessment Report dated 23 February 2026 (“**the Landscape Report**”) regarding landscape related aspects of the application under the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”) by Ridgeburn Limited (“**the Applicant**”) for the Ridgeburn proposal (“**the Application**”). The Landscape Report was written by me, reviewed and authorised by Mr Milne. It was lodged as part of the Application on behalf of the Applicant. I am authorised to make this statement on behalf of Mr Milne and myself, who have confirmed its accuracy.
3. I have the following qualifications and experience relevant to the matters addressed in the Landscape Report:
  - (a) I hold a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (Hons) degree from Lincoln University and am a Registered Member of Tuia Pita Ora New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects. Also, I am a Landscape Planning Judge for the 2026 NZILA Awards.
  - (b) I have been practising as a Landscape Architect, primarily in the field of Landscape Planning, since 2012. I was employed by Vivian+Espie, a specialist resource management and landscape planning consultancy based in Queenstown from 2012 – 2017, and then by Beca as a landscape architect, specialising as a landscape planner from 2017 – 2019. Since 2019, I have been employed by RMM in the same role.
  - (c) I have been involved in a significant number of projects within the Queenstown Lakes Districts over the past 15 years. A list of project experience is Appended below that primarily focuses on large scale residential development and plan changes within sensitive landscape environments. The majority of my work involves advising clients regarding the protection and maintenance of landscape and amenity values that the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and District

Plans require. I also prepare Landscape Assessment Reports for Resource Consent Applications, Plan Changes and Submissions on District Plan Reviews, and provide evidence for local Council Hearings and Environment Court Hearings.

4. The relevant qualifications and experience of my colleague Mr Milne is set out in his expert statement.
5. While the Landscape Report has not been prepared in the form of evidence to be presented at a hearing, I confirm that:
  - (a) I have read the Expert Witness Code of Conduct set out in the Environment Court's Practice Note 2023 and have complied with the requirements in the Code of Conduct in preparing the Report.
  - (b) Except where we state that we are relying on material provided by another person, the Report is within my area of expertise.
  - (c) I have not omitted to consider material facts known to us that might alter or detract from the opinions expressed in this evidence.
6. While the Landscape Report is subject to a standard disclaimer stating that the report is not for use by persons other than the Applicant, I can confirm that the Landscape Report can be relied upon by the Panel and participants for the purposes of considering the Application under the FTAA. Which is stated immediately following the disclaimer in the Landscape Report.

**DATED** this Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2026



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**Paul Smith – Senior Landscape Architect – NZILA Registered**

## **APPENDIX 1: PROJECT EXAMPLES**

1. 2023–2026: Homestead Bay, Queenstown. Fast-track Application. Proposed 2,800 residential development, directly south of Jack’s Point.
2. 2019–2026: Maitahi Valley, Nelson. Private Plan Change. Proposed residential zoning within the Maitahi Valley, Nelson. Also, Fast-track Application. Proposed residential and retirement development, within the Maitahi Valley.
3. 2022-2024: Flock Hill Station, Selwyn District. Selwyn District Plan Review. Proposed Special Zone to enable Visitor Accommodation Activities, within an ONL.
4. 2022-2024: Castle Hill, Selwyn District. Selwyn District Plan Review. Proposed Special Zone to enable Visitor Accommodation Activities, directly east of Castle Hill Village, within an ONL.
5. 2023–2024: Twizel East Industrial Area, Twizel. Mackenzie District Plan Review. Proposed Industrial Zone directly south of Twizel township, within the ONL.
6. 2023: Low Burn Valley Road, Submission on Plan Change 19, Central Otago District. Proposed Residential Rezoning.
7. 2020–2021: Bendigo Station Subdivision, Bendigo. Proposed Residential Subdivision, approved by the Environment Court Decision No. [2021] NZEnvC136 and the High Court [2022] NZHC 2458.
8. 2015–2017: Criffel Station, Wānaka. District Plan Review. Proposed Rural Lifestyle Zone within Criffel Station.
9. 2015–2017: Wooing Tree, Cromwell. Private Plan Change. Proposed residential zoning, directly north of Cromwell town centre.
10. 2014–2016: Hanley’s Farm, Queenstown. Private Plan Change. Proposed residential zoning, directly north of Jack’s Point.