

23 October 2025

Environmental Protection Authority
Fast-track Approvals Team

To whom it may concern

Substantive Application – Wellington International Airport Southern Seawall Renewal – Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Wellington International Airport Limited (WIAL) is pleased to submit its substantive application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 for the Southern Seawall Renewal, a project of regional and national significance.

This application seeks approval for the following under the Fast-track Approvals Act:

- Resource consents that would be otherwise necessary under the Resource Management Act 1991 for the construction, operation and maintenance of the southern seawall;
- Concessions that would be otherwise necessary under the Reserves Act 1977 (in the form of leases and licences) to enable activities on esplanade reserve administered by Wellington City Council under that Act;
- Wildlife Act 1953 approvals for activities associated with relocating native lizards and kororā, and for any unintentional or incidental harming or killing of protected wildlife during construction; and
- An archaeological authority under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 on a precautionary basis, to modify or destroy any archaeological site, in the unlikely event that one is encountered during construction activities, many of which are to be undertaken on reclaimed land.

The project aligns with the purpose of the Act by delivering significant infrastructure benefits, including:

- Wellington Airport is regionally and nationally significant infrastructure providing both regional and national benefits.
- Wellington Airport is a lifeline utility with important duties to fulfil under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2022.
- In 2024, it was estimated that the airport contributed over 14,500 jobs and \$2 billion in GDP to the Wellington region's economy.
- The impacts of climate change are intensifying, and the current airport seawall defences are reaching the end of their usable life.
- Without safe and effective sea defences, the Airport will be unable to operate and maintain the significant economic benefits that it delivers to the Wellington regional economy.
- The main purpose of the project is to protect this important infrastructure and provide for its uninterrupted and ongoing operations.

- In addition to protecting the airport the project also protects the main Wellington City Council wastewater network pipes that connect significant parts of Wellington City to the Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant. Like the airport, both the wastewater network and the pipes are classified as regionally significant infrastructure.
- The construction of the renewed seawall is expected to generate employment equivalent to approximately 800 FTE positions over the seven-year construction period. This increase in employment will expand across many sectors including labourers, civil engineers and consultants. Across the most intensive 24-to-30-month construction phase five percent of the regional construction workforce will be employed to work on the project.

We confirm that:

- All required supporting documentation is included
- A redacted version suitable for public release is attached
- Pre-lodgement consultation has been undertaken with relevant agencies

We look forward to working with the EPA and the appointed expert panel to progress this application.

Yours sincerely,



Nick Petkov
General Manager, Infrastructure & Development