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2 April 2025



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Environmental Protection Authority Private Bag 63002 Welington 6140 info@fasttrack.govt.nz

C/O- Ministry for the Environment PO Box 10362 Wellington 6143 info@mfe.govt.nz

To whom it may concern,

Nova Energy submits this letter in support of a referral application for the Twizel Solar Project submitted in accordance with section 13 of the Fast Track Approvals Act (FTAA).

Nova considers the project is an eligible activity and meets the two criteria under section 22 of the FTAA for the referral application to be accepted.

The Twizel Solar Project is a large-scale infrastructure project that will have significant regional and national benefits generating 300MW of grid connected renewable electricity, providing enough electricity to power 75,000 homes annually. In terms of electricity generation and regional and national benefits the project compares favourably with other solar projects that have been listed in the FTAA and referred under the Natural and Built Environment Act. The project also finds strong policy support at national, regional and district levels.

Nova Energy considers the FTAA would better facilitate the project by enabling a consent application to be processed in a more timely and cost-effective way than under normal RMA and Wildlife Act processes. It is also considered unlikely that referring the project would materially affect the efficient operation of the fast-track approvals process.

Further information on the above and other matters is provided in the application. We look forward to your confirmation of receipt of the referral application and please make contact if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

**Tristan Maunsell** 

Projects and Development Manager