



# Whitewater NZ

Mo ngā awa te aroha, he waiaroha For the love of rivers

Date: 14 July 2025.

To whom it may concern

## **Waitaha Hydro Scheme - Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 substantive application**

In June 2025 Whitewater NZ Incorporated (WWNZ) and Westpower Limited (Westpower) entered into an agreement in relation to the Waitaha Power Scheme (Scheme). WWNZ has a mission to protect and restore Aotearoa's whitewater rivers and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely.

Through that agreement Westpower committed to several mitigations, and compensation, for the adverse effects of the Scheme on paddle sport / whitewater recreational activities on the Waitaha River. These commitments are included within the proposed conditions being advanced by Westpower for the Scheme. WWNZ supports the inclusion of those conditions within the resource consent approvals sought.

As a result of those commitments, WWNZ has a neutral position in relation to Westpower's application for a range of approvals under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 for the Scheme. WWNZ's concerns in relation to the adverse effects of the proposed Scheme on kayakers on the Waitaha River have been satisfactorily mitigated and WWNZ is content that the adverse effects of the Scheme on paddle sports / whitewater recreation have been appropriately mitigated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

President, Whitewater NZ.