



MINUTE OF THE PANEL CONVENER

Request for Section 51 report for The Point Solar Farm [FTAA-2509-1100]

Concessions under the Conservation Act 1987

(5 November 2025)

- [1] Pursuant to section 51 of the Fast-Track Approvals Act 2024 ("the Act"), this Minute directs the EPA to obtain advice and a report from the Director-General of Conservation.
- [2] The applicant, Far North Solar Farm Ltd, seeks the following concession from the Department of Conservation:

A right of way and a right to convey telecommunications over the Marginal Strip- Bendrose Stream (2805150) H38078. Land is held as moveable marginal strip under sections 24(1) & (2) of the conservation Act 1987. The marginal strip is subsumed within record of title 634899 (Bendrose FARM 2014 Ltd) GPS Coordinates are: E1370233, N5095201 to E1370297, N5095210

- [3] Pursuant to section 51(1) of the Act, the Director-General of Conservation is to file a report advising how the weighting of matters set out in Schedule 6, clause 4 of the Act should be approached, with regard to relevant senior court decisions.
- [4] Pursuant to section 51(2)(c) of the Act, if the Director-General of Conservation does not agree with, or wish to expand upon, the expert and planning assessment lodged in support of the concessions, she must file a report in accordance with Schedule 6, clause 4.

- [5] For the avoidance of doubt, the Director-General:
 - (a) may confirm and append advice previously given in response to a panel convener's directions under s 51(1) on another project; and
 - (b) does not need to provide an assessment of the approval pursuant to s 51(2)(c) if they concur with the expert and planning assessments filed by the applicant.
- [6] The Director-General of Conservation is to respond to the draft terms or conditions proposed, track changing any amendments. Any advice or report received will be provided by the EPA to the persons listed in section 51(5).
- [7] Finally, it would assist the panel convener if the Director-General is able to indicate their views on the application at the convener's conference.

Jane Borthwick

Panel convener for the purpose of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024