



24 July 2026

FTAA-2511-1138

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 – Response to Minute 8 of the Expert Panel

Tēnā koe

This letter is in response to Minute 8 of the Expert Panel (Panel) issued on 21 July 2026, which seeks further information regarding Schedule 5, clause 15(2) of the *Fast Track Approvals Act 2024* (the Act).

Clause 15(2) of Schedule 5 of the Act requires the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to have regard to certain information when making a recommendation on an aquaculture decision. This includes, in sub-clause (a) "information held by the Ministry that is, with the authority of the Prime Minister, for the time being responsible for the administration of the *Fisheries Act 1996*". Furthermore, clause 15(4)(d) then requires that the recommendation from the relevant chief executive must "include the information described in subclause 2(a), (b) and (d)".

Pursuant to section 67 of the Act, the Panel may request information from specified parties at any time before making its final decision on an application.

In response to the Panel's request, MPI confirms that the information required to be provided under clause 15(2)(a) of the Act is contained within the recommendation report provided on 15 July 2026.

Ngā mihi

Monique Andrew

Director Verification & Operations
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(Acting under delegated authority)