

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE 3 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Section 53 comments and appointment of special advisers
Waikanae North Development [FTAA-2603-1194]

5 August 2026

Section 53 comments received

[1] On 29 June 2026, the Panel issued Minute 1 inviting comments on the application under section 53 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act).

[2] Comments closed on 28 July 2026, with invited comments received from 33 parties. The comments are available to view on the Fast-track website, here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/waikanae-north-development/comments-from-invited-parties>

[3] Prior to processing of the application being suspended as set out in Minute 2, if the Applicant wished to file a response to the comments received, it had to do so no later than 5 working days after the day that comments closed (section 55(2) of the Act). For this application that date was 4 August 2026.

[4] Under section 60(2) of the Act, when an application is suspended, any timeframes associated with the processing of the application exclude the time in which the suspension takes place. The applicant's response to comments will therefore be due the day that processing of the application recommences.

[5] The applicant's response will be published on the same webpage as the comments received, and all parties that were invited to comment will be notified when processing recommences.

Appointment of special advisers

[6] Under clause 10(2) of Schedule 3 of the Act, the Panel may appoint special advisers to assist with “*any matters that the panel may determine.*”

[7] The Panel has appointed Alexandria Solly from Berry Simons Environmental Law, and Susannah Tait from Planz Consultants Ltd, to assist with legal scribe and conditions writing tasks respectively.



Sue Simons

Waikanae North Development Expert Panel Chair