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**MINUTE 5 OF THE EXPERT PANEL**  
**Request for suspension of processing**  
**Arataki [FTAA-2506-1083]**  
**(28 November 2025)**

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- [1] By Memorandum dated 28th November 2025, and in accordance with section 64(1) of the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA), the Applicant's Agent made a written request to the EPA that the processing of the substantive application be suspended.
- [2] The suspension was sought to ensure that the Applicant has sufficient time to respond to the further information request in Minute 3 of the Expert Panel (Panel).
- [3] Pursuant to section 64(3), the Panel may, at its discretion, suspend the processing of the Application. Whilst the discretion is broadly framed, the Panel must nevertheless exercise its discretion in a principled way, including by reference to the purpose of the FTAA.
- [4] Having considered the reasons for the requested suspension, the Panel considers that granting the suspension sought is consistent with the purpose of the FTAA and the procedural principles in section 10.
- [5] The Applicant has requested that, at this time, the suspension would be for a period of two working days. Unless advised otherwise, processing of the application will resume on Wednesday 3 December 2025.
- [6] In accordance with section 64 of the FTAA, the Panel grants the request to suspend processing the substantive application, effective from close of business on 28 November 2025. The Panel authorises the EPA to give notice of this decision to the Applicant, and all persons or groups invited to provide comment under section 53 of the FTAA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Caldwell", enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Jennifer Caldwell

Arataki Expert Panel Chair