

16 January 2026

For the Expert Panel  
Kaimai Hydro-electric Power Scheme [FTAA-2502-1024]

**BY EMAIL: substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz**

**KAIMAI HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER SCHEME – COMMENTS ON BEHALF OF NGĀTI HANGARAU HAPŪ AND NGAMANAWA INCORPORATION**

Tēnā koutou

1. I have been engaged by Ngāti Hangarau hapū (**Ngāti Hangarau**) and Ngamanawa Incorporation (**Ngamanawa**) to assist them with engagement in the fast-track process in relation to the application by Manawa Energy to re-consent its existing Kaimai Hydro-electric power scheme (**Application**).
2. In the Panel's Minute 1 dated 17 December 2025, Ngāti Hangarau has been invited by the Panel to provide comments on the Application as a relevant Treaty settlement entity pursuant to s53(2)(c) of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2025 (**Act**). Ngamanawa has also been invited to provide comments as an owner of land to which the substantive application relates.<sup>1</sup>
3. Since prior to lodging the Application, Manawa Energy has continued to engage constructively with both Ngāti Hangarau and Ngamanawa in relation to the Application. That engagement has enabled Ngāti Hangarau and Ngamanawa to reach a position of support for the version of the proposed conditions included as Appendix E to the Application lodged with the EPA (**Agreed Conditions**).
4. The impacts of the Application proposal on Ngāti Hangarau and Ngamanawa which are not capable of being addressed through the Agreed Conditions have been addressed by a confidential agreement between Manawa, Ngāti Hangarau and Ngamanawa (**Side Agreement**).
5. Ngāti Hangarau and Ngamanawa acknowledge that the Agreed Conditions may change during the Application process and that the final determination of the Application by the Panel may result in conditions which are different to the Agreed Conditions.

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<sup>1</sup> The relevant landholdings are Ngamanawa Block BLK; Part Kaimai 3 Block; Section 1 SO 58345 at Omanawa Road and Part Whaiti Kuranui 5D2 Block at Hanga Road.

6. The Side Agreement contains a process for Ngāti Hangarau and Ngamanawa to engage further with Manawa to seek to agree on any amendments to the Agreed Conditions proposed by Manawa during the Application process.
7. Ngāti Hangarau and Ngamanawa expressly reserve their right to provide comments on any changes to the Agreed Conditions which affect their interests and / or to appeal against the decision of the Expert Panel if the Agreed Conditions are amended in a manner which affects their interests to the extent that opportunity is provided for under the Act and in a manner consistent with the Side Agreement.

Nāku noa, nā



Mary Hill  
Barrister