
Invitation to comment on Fast-track referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting Project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 – FTAA-2607-1258

From Infrastructure Portfolio <Infrastructure.Portfolio@parliament.govt.nz>

Date Mon 3/08/2026 10:02 AM

To Nicola Willis (MIN) <N.Willis@ministers.govt.nz>; Shane Jones (MIN) <S.Jones@ministers.govt.nz>; Nicola Grigg (MIN) <N.Grigg@ministers.govt.nz>; Tama Potaka (MIN) <T.Potaka@ministers.govt.nz>; Simeon Brown (MIN) <S.Brown@ministers.govt.nz>; Simon Watts (MIN) <S.Watts@ministers.govt.nz>

Cc FTAreferalls <FTAreferalls@mfe.govt.nz>

 1 attachment (56 KB)

Comments Form for Invited Ministers.docx;

To:

- Minister for Economic Growth
- Minister for Regional Development
- Minister for the Environment
- Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti
- Minister for Māori Development
- Minister for Energy
- Minister of Conservation
- Minister of Climate Change

Dear Ministers,

Hon Chris Bishop, the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister), has asked for me to write to you on his behalf.

The Minister has received an application from Manawa Energy Limited for referral of the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting Project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track process (application reference FTAA- 2607-1258).

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits.

Invitation to comment on referral application

I write in accordance with section 17 of the Act to invite you to provide written comments on the referral application. I have provided summary details of the project below.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received by **return email** within **15 working days** of receipt of this email, being **24 August 2026**. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Any comments submitted will contribute to the Minister's decision on whether to accept the referral application and to refer the project.

If you do not wish to provide comments, please let us know as soon as possible so we can proceed with processing the application without delay.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the Applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

Process

The application documents are accessible through the Fast-track portal. Please note that application documents may contain commercially sensitivity information and should not be shared widely. If you haven't used the portal before, you can request access by emailing ftareferrals@mfe.govt.nz. Once you are registered and have accepted the terms and conditions, you will receive a link to view the documents. Existing users will be able to see application documents via the request when logging into the portal. Should you need for your agency to provide any supplementary information, a nominated person can be provided access to the portal, access can be requested by emailing ftareferrals@mfe.govt.nz.

To submit your comments on the application, you can either provide a letter or complete the attached template for written comments and return it by replying to this email, infrastructure.portfolio@parliament.govt.nz.

Before the due date, if you have any queries about this email or need assistance with using the portal, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz. Further information is available at <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/>.

Important Information

Please note that all comments received from Ministers invited to comment will be subject to the Official Information Act 1982. Comments received will be proactively released at the time the Minister for Infrastructure makes a referral decision, unless the Minister providing comments advises the Minister for Infrastructure's office they are to be withheld, at the time they are submitted.

If a Conflict of Interest is identified by the Minister providing comments at any stage of providing comments, please inform my office and the Cabinet Office immediately. The Cabinet Office will provide advice and, if appropriate, initiate a request to the Prime Minister to agree to a transfer of the project/portfolio invite to another Minister (a request to transfer a COI from one Minister to another can take 1-7 days).

Project summary

Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting Project
Applicant	Manawa Energy Limited
Location	Tararua Ranges, south-west of Palmerston North
Project description	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing operation and maintenance activities occurring across multiple land parcels, including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: a. the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; b. the discharge of water and sediment; c. the disturbance of riverbeds; d. the deposition of sediment; e. the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and f. the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). Note that this is the second referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme. The project was previously referred on 10 November 2025. This current referral application represents a re-lodgement of the project: Subsequent to the original referral, the applicant has identified that some existing maintenance activities and associated landholdings were not clearly identified within the scope of the earlier referral application, including works extending onto Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the operating regime or to the project previously accepted for referral, and that the current application

is intended only to ensure these activities and landholdings are accurately captured within the project scope.

Kind regards,



Office of Hon Chris Bishop

Attorney-General | Minister of Housing | Minister for Infrastructure | Minister Responsible for
RMA Reform | Minister of Transport | Associate Minister of Finance | MP for Hutt South

Office: 04 817 6802 | EW 6.3

Email: c.bishop@ministers.govt.nz Website: [<http://www.beehive.govt.nz/>][www.Beehive.govt.nz](http://www.beehive.govt.nz/)

Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

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03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Geoff Douch
Chief Executive
Electra Lines Company Limited

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Geoff

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM.**

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(5) of the Act. You have been identified as an “any other person” for the purposes of this section, as the project is connected

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NZBN: 9429053601643

to and integrates with the local electricity distribution network. Accordingly, I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application, a copy of which is available to you via the portal.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for inviting written comments under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence and may be commercially sensitive. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

Any written comments you provide, must be received within **15 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application (refer to the due date above). The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame.

Comments received will help inform the Minister and the criteria in [Section 22](#) of the Act will guide the Minister's decision-making on whether to refer the project to the fast-track approvals process.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and refer the project to the fast-track approvals process, the applicant will be required to complete any preliminary steps under the Act before lodging a substantive application. If the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) deems the substantive application complete, an expert panel will be appointed to make a final decision on the required approvals.

Before the due date, please upload any comments to the application portal feedback page using the template for written comments (attached) or similar format/document.

Alternatively, if you wish to email your feedback or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Antonia Croft.

For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Frame', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Joanne Mooar
Senior Corporate Counsel
Transpower New Zealand Ltd
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Joanne

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM.**

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(5) of the Act. You have been identified as an “any other person” for the purposes of this section, as the project is connected to the Transpower National Grid. Accordingly, I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application, a copy of which is available to you via the portal.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for inviting written comments under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence and may be commercially sensitive. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

Any written comments you provide, must be received within **15 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application (refer to the due date above). The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame.

Comments received will help inform the Minister and the criteria in [Section 22](#) of the Act will guide the Minister's decision-making on whether to refer the project to the fast-track approvals process.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and refer the project to the fast-track approvals process, the applicant will be required to complete any preliminary steps under the Act before lodging a substantive application. If the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) deems the substantive application complete, an expert panel will be appointed to make a final decision on the required approvals.

Before the due date, please upload any comments to the application portal feedback page using the template for written comments (attached) or similar format/document.

Alternatively, if you wish to email your feedback or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Antonia Croft.

For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Frame', is shown within a rectangular box.

Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: James Kilty - s 9(2)(a)
Andy Eccleshall - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Peter Chrisp
Director-General of Conservation
Department of Conservation
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Peter

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM.**

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. *Section 22* of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(1)(c) of the Act (which requires the Minister to invite written comments on a referral application from the relevant administering agencies). I invite Department of Conservation as the administering agency for the

Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 to provide written comments on the referral application, a copy of which is available to you via the portal.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received within **15 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application (refer to due date above). The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of the specified time frame.

Under section 17(3A) of the Act, any comments made by an administering agency must be **relevant** to the application and the decision on the application that the Minister is required to make under section 21.

The requirement for any other comments to be **relevant** is new, made through the Fast-track Approvals Amendment Act 2025. This change was made to ensure comments from organisations that recover costs from applicants are focused on matters relevant to the Minister's **referral** decision and do not stray into peripheral matters that are not material to that decision, or are overly technical or detailed where this level of input is not justified as being relevant to the decision. This is particularly important to help manage cost escalations which may otherwise be borne by applicants and/or taxpayers, without adding value to the Minister's decision on whether to refer the application.

Note that consideration of this referral application under these criteria is more limited than the detail required to be considered during a substantive application stage. Comments should therefore be limited to matters relevant to the referral criteria. Please refrain from providing overly detailed comments, which are not relevant to the referral decision.

You may have a later opportunity to provide further detail in comments on a substantive application (for example, site specific constraints or conditions), if the project is referred to an independent expert panel.

To this end, please ensure any comments you choose to provide are specific to this particular referral application, and linked to the Minister's decision-making criteria as set out in sections 21 and 22 of the Act. In this regard, we are particularly interested in comments you might have on the following matters:

1. *Whether you consider the project may involve an ineligible activity, and if so, why (as defined in section 5 of the Act)*
2. *Whether you consider any of the reasons to decline a referral application may be applicable to this application, and if so why (under section 21(5) of Act).*

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for inviting written comments under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence and may be commercially sensitive. It should not be disclosed to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and refer the project to the fast-track approvals process, the applicant will be required to complete any preliminary steps under the Act before lodging a substantive application. If the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) deems the

substantive application complete and within scope, an independent expert panel will be appointed to make a final decision on the required approvals.

Before the due date, please upload any comments to the application portal feedback page using the template for written comments (attached) or similar format/document.

Alternatively, if you wish to email your feedback or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Antonia Croft.

For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Frame', is shown within a light blue rectangular border.

Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc:

Linda Kirk - s 9(2)(a)
Amelia Taaka - s 9(2)(a)
Grace Masterton - s 9(2)(a)
Team Email - fast-track@doc.govt.nz

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Monique Davidson
Chief Executive
Horowhenua District Council
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Monique

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM**.

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A of this letter.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. *Section 22* of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

Under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(1)(a) of the Act, I invite Horowhenua District Council to provide written comments on the referral application, a copy of which is available to you via the portal.

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Written comments must be received within **15 working days** of receipt of this letter and a copy of the application (refer to the due date above). The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame.

Under section 17(3) of the Act, Horowhenua District Council **must** provide comments advising on the following matters:

- 1. Any applications that have been lodged with the Council that would be a competing application or applications if a substantive application for the project were lodged. If no such applications exist, please provide written confirmation.*

In addition, under section 17(3)(b), a relevant local authority **may** also provide other comments, but only if those comments are **relevant** to the application and the decision on the application that the Minister is required to make under section 21.

Please note that consideration of a referral application is limited to the referral criteria and does not involve the level of detail required at the substantive application stage. Comments should therefore be confined to matters relevant to the referral criteria. Please avoid providing detailed comments on matters that would more appropriately be considered during the substantive application process.

You may have a later opportunity to provide further detail in comments on a substantive application (for example, site specific constraints or conditions), if the project is referred to an independent expert panel.

To this end, please ensure any comments you choose to provide are specific to this particular referral application, and linked to the Minister's decision-making criteria as set out in sections 21 and 22 of the Act. In this regard, we are particularly interested in comments you might have on the following matters:

- 1. Whether you consider the project may involve an ineligible activity, and if so, why (as defined in section 5 of the Act)*
- 2. Whether you consider any of the reasons to decline a referral application may be applicable to this application, and if so why (under section 21(5) of Act).*

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for inviting written comments under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence and may be commercially sensitive. It should not be disclosed to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and refer the project to the fast-track approvals process, the applicant will be required to complete any preliminary steps under the Act before lodging a substantive application. If the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) deems the substantive application complete and within scope, an independent expert panel will be appointed to make a final decision on the required approvals.

Before the due date, please upload any comments to the application portal feedback page using the template for written comments (attached) or similar format/document.

Alternatively, if you wish to email your feedback or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Antonia Croft. For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Frame', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc:

Brent Harvey - s 9(2)(a)

Daniel Haigh - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Michael McCartney
Chief Executive
Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council
Email: help@horizons.govt.nz

Dear Michael

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM**.

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A of this letter.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. *Section 22* of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

Under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(1)(a) of the Act, I invite Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council to provide written comments on the referral application, a copy of which is available to you via the portal.

fasttrack.govt.nz | contact@fasttrack.govt.nz | 0800 FASTRK

Fast-track referrals are administered on behalf of the Minister for Infrastructure by the Secretary for the Environment
NZBN: 9429053601643

Written comments must be received within **15 working days** of receipt of this letter and a copy of the application (refer to the due date above). The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame.

Under section 17(3) of the Act, Manawātū-Whanganui Regional Council **must** provide comments advising on the following matters:

- 1. Any applications that have been lodged with the Council that would be a competing application or applications if a substantive application for the project were lodged. If no such applications exist, please provide written confirmation.*
- 2. In relation to projects seeking approval of a resource consent under section 42(4)(a) of the Act, whether there any existing resource consents issued where sections 124C(1)(c) or 165ZI of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) could apply, if the project were to be applied for as a resource consent under the RMA. If no such consents exist, please provide written confirmation.*

In addition, under section 17(3)(b), a relevant local authority **may** also provide other comments, but only if those comments are **relevant** to the application and the decision on the application that the Minister is required to make under section 21.

Please note that consideration of a referral application is limited to the referral criteria and does not involve the level of detail required at the substantive application stage. Comments should therefore be confined to matters relevant to the referral criteria. Please avoid providing detailed comments on matters that would more appropriately be considered during the substantive application process.

You may have a later opportunity to provide further detail in comments on a substantive application (for example, site specific constraints or conditions), if the project is referred to an independent expert panel.

To this end, please ensure any comments you choose to provide are specific to this particular referral application, and linked to the Minister's decision-making criteria as set out in sections 21 and 22 of the Act. In this regard, we are particularly interested in comments you might have on the following matters:

- 1. Whether you consider the project may involve an ineligible activity, and if so, why (as defined in section 5 of the Act)*
- 2. Whether you consider any of the reasons to decline a referral application may be applicable to this application, and if so why (under section 21(5) of Act).*

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If the Minister decides to accept the application and refer the project to the fast-track approvals process, the applicant will be required to complete any preliminary steps under the Act before

lodging a substantive application. If the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) deems the substantive application complete and within scope, an independent expert panel will be appointed to make a final decision on the required approvals.

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Frame', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc:

Sara Westcott - s 9(2)(a)

Jasmine Mitchell - s 9(2)(a)

Greg Bevin - s 9(2)(a)

Horizons Group email - FastTrackConsents@horizons.govt.nz

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Di Rump
CEO
Muaūpoko Tribal Authority Inc
Email: ceo@muaupoko.iwi.nz

Tēnā koe Di

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM**.

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

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fasttrack.govt.nz | contact@fasttrack.govt.nz | 0800 FASTRK
Fast-track referrals are administered on behalf of the Minister for Infrastructure by the Secretary for the Environment
NZBN: 9429053601643

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Nāku noa, nā

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Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Dean Wilson - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Ngaio Tiuka
Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Ngaio

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM.**

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Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

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Nāku noa, nā

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Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Shade Smith - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Chrissy Marshall
Ngāti Kahungunu ki Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Chrissy

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

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Nāku noa, nā

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Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Shade Smith - s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
 Stacey Hape - s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
 Christina Marshall - s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
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03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Paora Ammunson

Chair

Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa - Tāmaki nui-ā-Rua Settlement Trust

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Paora

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

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Nāku noa, nā

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Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Ray Hall - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A – Project summary details

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Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
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03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Kahurangi Hapi-Tangaroa
Rangitāne o Manawatū Settlement Trust
Email: taiao@romst.iwi.nz

Tēnā koe Kahurangi

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

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Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Debbie Te Puni - s 9(2)(a)
George Davis - info@romst.iwi.nz

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Ray Hall
Chief Executive
Rangitāne o Tāmaki nui-ā-Rua
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Ray

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM.**

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(d) of the Act (which requires consultation with relevant Māori groups identified under section 18(2)). I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application, a copy of which is available to you via the portal.

fasttrack.govt.nz | contact@fasttrack.govt.nz | 0800 FASTRK

Fast-track referrals are administered on behalf of the Minister for Infrastructure by the Secretary for the Environment
NZBN: 9429053601643

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If you provide written comments as a **Māori consultation group**, you may be entitled to a financial contribution of \$2,000 (excluding GST) under Schedule 2 of the Fast-Track Approvals (Cost Recovery) Regulations 2025. For general information about contribution fees and invoices refer to the Fast-track webpage on [Cost recovery for agencies](#). The process for applying for a contribution fee payment as a Māori consultation group is outlined here: [Applying for a contribution fee payment](#).

If the Minister decides to accept the application and refer the project to the fast-track approvals process, the applicant will be required to complete any preliminary steps under the Act before lodging a substantive application. If the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) deems the substantive application complete, an expert panel will be appointed to make a final decision on the required approvals.

Before the due date, please upload any comments to the application portal feedback page using the template for written comments (attached) or similar format/document.

Alternatively, if you wish to email your feedback or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Antonia Croft. For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Antonia Croft', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Mariah Petera - taiao@twr.rangitane.co.nz

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Sonya Rimene
Chair
Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Sonya

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Note: Comments must be received by **24/08/2026, 11.59PM.**

A referral application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from Manawa Energy Limited (the applicant) for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). Project summary details are in Appendix A.

This application is substantially similar to the project previously referred to the fast-track approvals process on 10 November 2025 (application reference FTAA-2507-1086), following a referral application lodged in July 2025. The principal difference is that it includes certain existing operation and maintenance activities, and associated landholdings (including Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation), that were not clearly captured in the earlier application. The applicant states that no changes are proposed to the project's operating regime.

Under the Act, application FTAA-2607-1258 must be considered as a new referral application. Comments received in relation to the previous application (FTAA-2507-1086) cannot be taken into account for the purposes of this application. To have comments considered by the Minister, parties must provide comments in relation to application FTAA-2607-1258. If a party's views remain unchanged, they may resubmit the same comments, preferably with reference to the new application number.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(d) of the Act (which requires consultation with relevant Māori groups identified under section 18(2)). I invite you to

provide written comments on the referral application, a copy of which is available to you via the portal.

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Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S. Frame', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc:

Darrin Apanui - s 9(2)(a)

General email - info@tumaira.nz

Hineirangi Pearce - s 9(2)(a)

Elaine Durie - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Alana Nuku
Tanenuiarangi Manawatū Charitable Trust
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Alana

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

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Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Frame', is shown within a light blue rectangular box.

Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Shaun Lines - s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.

03/08/2026

FTAA-2607-1258

Rachael Selby

Chair

Te Rūnanga o Raukawa Incorporated (Ngāti Raukawa ki te tonga)

Email: raukawakitetonga@gmail.com

Tēnā koe Rachael

Invitation to provide written comments on the referral application for the Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

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Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Frame', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Stephanie Frame

Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Cc: Freeman Paul - ceo@raukawa.iwi.nz
office@raukawa.iwi.nz

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2607-1258
Project name	Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Reconsenting
Applicant name	Manawa Energy Limited
Project summary details	The project is the reconsenting of the existing Mangahao Hydro-Electric Power Scheme to enable its continued operation and maintenance. The Scheme is located in the northern part of the Tararua Ranges, approximately 28 kilometres south-west of Palmerston North and 15 kilometres north-east of Levin. It draws water from the Mangahao River and generates up to 39.9 megawatts of electricity, with an average annual output of 131 gigawatt-hours, sufficient to power approximately 20,000 homes. The project includes existing maintenance activities occurring on multiple Crown land parcels administered by the Department of Conservation. The activities applied for include: • the damming, taking, diversion and use of water; • the discharge of water and sediment; • the disturbance of riverbeds; • the deposition of sediment; • the maintenance of structures within waterbodies; and • the erection and placement of structures within waterbodies (included on a precautionary basis). The project will require the proposed approvals: • resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 • the applicant identifies that an approval under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 will be required and states that further ecological investigations will determine whether a standard or complex freshwater fisheries approval is necessary. The applicant also explains that no changes to the existing operating regime are proposed.