

25 November 2025

Jane Borthwick  
Panel Convener  
Fast Track Approvals  
By e-mail: [info@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:info@fasttrack.govt.nz)

Dear Jane

### **Memorandum 5: FTAA-2508-1097 Haldon Solar - Response to Minute 5**

Lodestone Energy Limited thanks the Panel Convener for the Minute dated 24 November 2025 and provides the following response for circulation to the appointed panel.

#### **Iwi Engagement**

With respect to your minute [14], Lodestone confirms that engagement with Aukaha Limited (on behalf of Te Rūnanga o Moeraki and Te Rūnanga o Waihao), Aoraki Environmental Consultancy Limited (on behalf of Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua) and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu **occurred as planned** on 19 November. This engagement was helpful and constructive, and Lodestone remains committed to ongoing dialogue with mana whenua throughout the process.

#### **Department of Conservation (DOC)**

Further to your minute [5], Lodestone confirms that DOC personnel visited the Haldon site on 20 November 2025 to undertake lizard, invertebrate, and avifauna observations as part of their initial information-gathering. Follow-up meetings are currently being scheduled to discuss the site and potential ecological considerations. Lodestone welcomes ongoing discussions with DOC and remains committed to providing survey results and updates well within the 80-day decision time frame.

#### **Transpower**

In relation to minute [11], thank you for acknowledging our advice that Transpower's Transmission Works Agreement (TWA) framework does not confer priority or capacity rights, and that Lodestone's opportunity to progress a connection is not prejudiced by the Point Solar Farm project. We have written confirmation from Transpower on this matter and will provide this to the panel.

#### **Common Panel and Cumulative Effects**

In support of your minute [3], we endorse the decision to appoint a common panel and agree with minute [12] that a common panel will minimise the risk of inconsistent findings of fact and opinion.

Further, we are sympathetic to the view that the panel may need to consider cumulative effects in the Mackenzie Basin, given that several solar schemes much larger than Haldon have subsequently emerged.

#### **Closing**

Lodestone appreciates the clarity provided in the Minute regarding the decision timeframe, engagement expectations, and the panel's composition.

Regards,



Gary Holden  
Managing Director  
Lodestone Energy Limited