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**MINUTE 5 OF THE EXPERT PANEL**  
Request for Information and engagement of experts  
Green Steel [FTAA-2506-1074]  
(5 December 2025)

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**Engagement of Experts**

[1] The Panel wishes to advise that it has engaged the assistance of the following experts to assist in its assessment of the application;

- Analeigh Pye, planner from SLR to assist with the writing of the decision
- Lachlan Muldowney to provide legal advice on whether the technical descriptions of the wetlands provided by Waikato Regional Council and the applicant's experts result in the wetlands meeting the definition of "Natural Inland Wetlands" under the National Policy Statement and National Environmental standards for Freshwater.

[2] The Panel has received the additional landscape information requested from the applicant, and the peer review by Shannon Bray of Wayfinder engaged by the Panel to review the landscape report submitted with the application.

[3] This report is available on the website and has been provided to the parties. The Panel wishes to provide the applicant with the opportunity to respond to the matters raised in Mr Bray's review, noting that some questions are raised but that overall, his conclusion is that the applicant's assessment has probably overestimated effects on landscape.

[4] The Panel draws the applicant's attention to question 1 on pages 14-15 of the review as to effects on neighbouring dwellings and especially 61B Hampton Downs Road. It requests that any response by the applicant include an assessment

of this. If the applicant is to submit a response this is to be submitted by **12 December 2025**.

### **Further Information from Applicant and Commenter**

[5] The Panel requests that the applicant provide the following information.

[6] It is stated in the information provided, as a result of Minute 4, that the project will be relying on 100% renewable energy and that the production of the plant will be managed to achieve this. Please provide further information to outline how this management protocol, in particular, will be achieved. If this is proposed to be through a condition of consent, then the Panel requests that this condition is provided.

[7] The Panel has reviewed the comment received from Harness Downs in relation to an Urupa being located on the site and the applicant's response to this. The Panel understands that Harness Downs has indicated to the EPA that it has further evidence in relation to this. The Panel requests that Harness Downs provides the further information it has relating to the historic Urupa being located on the site by **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**.

[8] Unless otherwise specified above, the responses are to be provided to the EPA no later than **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025** via:

- by email [info@fastrack.govt.nz](mailto:info@fastrack.govt.nz);
- by post to Private Bag 63002, Wellington 6140 New Zealand; or
- in person to Stewart Dawson's Corner, 366 Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011.



**Matthew Casey KC**  
Green Steel Expert Panel Chair