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## MINUTE 10 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Procedural conference

Ryans Road Industrial Area [FTAA-2504-1054]

(3 March 2026)

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[1] Airways Corporation of New Zealand (**Airways**) and Christchurch International Airport Limited (**CIAL**) (together, the "**Parties**") have filed a joint memorandum<sup>1</sup> in respect of the further information package provided by the Carter Group Limited (**CGL** or the **Applicant**) on 23 February 2026 in response to the Panel's Minute 9 (dated 2 February 2026) (**CGL Package**).

[2] The Parties note that the CGL Package is extensive and includes legal submissions which are over 80 pages and seven new statements of evidence (which together run over hundreds of pages) relating to the aviation safety impacts of the Application.

[3] The joint memorandum records that Airways and CIAL have serious concerns with the CGL Package, including the Parties view that:

(a) the evidence is untested and contains material errors;

(b) neither CIAL or Airways have had an opportunity to respond to the evidence, yet there is plenty they wish to respond to and comment on; and

(c) the legal submissions misapply the legal tests under the FTAA.

[4] For these reasons, which are explained in further detail within the joint memorandum, Airways and CIAL have requested that the Panel urgently sets down an urgent procedural conference to determine next steps.

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<sup>1</sup> Joint memorandum of counsel on behalf of Airways Corporation of New Zealand and Christchurch International Airport Limited dated 2 March 2026

[5] In light of the matters raised in the joint memorandum (about which the Panel has yet to form a view) the Panel is agreeable to the request. We have asked the EPA to arrange an urgent procedural conference with the Parties and the Applicant.

[6] The purpose of the conference is to discuss next steps including whether Airways and CIAL should be afforded an opportunity to respond in writing to the CGL Package. The Panel also has matters it would like to discuss with the parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Fowler', written in a cursive style.

Chris Fowler  
Expert Panel Chair