

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE 8 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Request for information
Hananui Aquaculture Project
[FTAA-2511-1138]

21 July 2026

Introduction

[1] Under section 71 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act), the Panel directed for the EPA to provide a copy of its draft conditions to the Director-General of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) on 9 July 2026, for the purposes of clause 15 of Schedule 5 of the Act.

[2] On 15 July 2026, MPI provided their recommendation on the aquaculture decision. The recommendation can be viewed on the Fast-track website, here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/hananui-aquaculture-project/draft-decision-and-conditions>

Request for information to MPI

[3] Clause 15 of Schedule 5 of the Act specifies the process by which MPI is to make a recommendation to a Panel on an aquaculture decision.

[4] Clause 15(2) requires MPI to have regard to certain information, including, in sub-clause (a) "*information held by the Ministry that is, with the authority of the Prime Minister, for the time being responsible for the administration of the Fisheries Act 1996*".

[5] Clause 15(4)(d) then requires that a recommendation from the relevant chief executive must “*include the information described in subclause 2(a), (b) and (d)*”.

[6] Under clause 20(2) of Schedule 5, the Panel must “*have regard to the information described in clause 15(2)*”.

[7] Under section 67 of the Act, a Panel may request information from specified parties at any time before the final decision on an application is made.

[8] MPI is requested to provide the relevant information described in clause 15(2)(a) of Schedule 5, or confirm where in the recommendation the Panel can locate that information, or confirm that there is no further information falling within clause 15(2)(a) that needs to be provided. A response to this request for information is due by **Friday 24 July 2026**.



Bal Matheson KC
Hananui Aquaculture Project Expert Panel Chair