

FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024 – Substantive Application for Oparure Quarry

To: Ms Jennifer Caldwell, Associate Panel Convener for the purpose of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024
From: Te Nehenehenui
Date: 4 September 2026
Matter: Fast Track Application Oparure Quarry South-Western Pit [FTAA-2606-1251]

1. Introduction

This Memorandum responds to Minute 1 of the Panel Convener dated 1 September 2026. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Panel Convener's Conference. Te Nehenehenui participates as a relevant Treaty settlement entity under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 and represents the interests of Ngāti Maniapoto within the project area.

The purpose of this memorandum is to assist the Associate Panel Convener in determining:

- the appropriate skills, knowledge and expertise required for the expert panel; and
- the timeframe required for the panel to determine the application.

2. Approvals

The application seeks approvals across a range of activities and environmental domains within a karst system, including:

- land use activities associated with new quarrying operations
- discharges to land, air, surface/groundwater
- diversion and taking of surface/groundwater
- disturbance of land and emission of noise.

3. Complexity

- The application appears to only seek resource consents under Resource Management Act 1991.
- Although the evidentiary material supporting the application is extensive and highly technical, Te Nehenehenui is familiar with the proposal.
- Te Nehenehenui has provided a technical position on the proposal as part of the referral application¹ and through that document, has expressed the views of Ōparure Marae who as mana whenua, do not support this proposal.

4. Mātauranga and Tikanga

Tikanga Māori and mātauranga Māori are directly relevant to the assessment of this application.

¹ 20 April 2026

It is our view that relevant considerations include:

- Te Mana o te Wai – prioritising the quality and integrity of water for present and future generations.
- Ngā Wai o Maniapoto – the duty to restore, protect and enhance Maniapoto waters through active participation in decision-making.
- Te mana tuku iho o Waiwaiā – recognition of Waiwaiā as spiritual kaitiaki, requiring consultation on matters affecting Maniapoto.
- Kaitiakitanga – restoring relationships with water, enabling manaakitanga, respecting Maniapoto tikanga and empowering Maniapoto involvement.
- Recognition of Maniapoto mana – acknowledging the significance of Ngā Wai o Maniapoto and the environment to Maniapoto identity.
- Recognition of Maniapoto as rangatira and kaitiaki in resource management and decision-making.
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi / Treaty of Waitangi – recognition of Maniapoto and the Crown as Treaty partners and the obligations of local authorities to give effect to Treaty principles.

5. Panel skills, knowledge and expertise

Te Nehenehenui considers that the panel should collectively include expertise in the following areas:

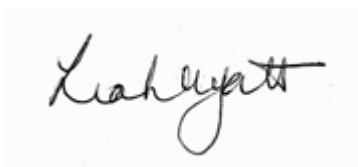
- environmental and technical expertise relevant to quarrying and extractive industry operations
- technical expertise in karst hydrology and karst groundwater systems
- tikanga Māori.

6. Decision Timeframe

Given the scale of the proposal, Te Nehenehenui considers that a decision timeframe of 40-45 working days following receipt of comments is appropriate.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these matters.

Nāku noa, nā



Leah Wyatt

Acting General Manager – Settlement Protection/Taiao Manager
Te Nehenehenui

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: [REDACTED]

Organisation: Te Nehenehenui

Address: PO Box 36, Te Kūiti 3910

Phone: [REDACTED]

Contact: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]