
MINUTE 18 OF THE EXPERT PANEL
Draft Decision and Conditions
North West Rapid Transit [FTAA-2511-1146]
12 August 2026

[1] The purpose of this Minute is to inform parties of the draft decision and draft conditions and to direct the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to invite:

- (a) Comments on the draft conditions of consent from specified parties under section 70 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA); and
- (b) Comments on the draft decision and draft conditions from specified Ministers under section 72 of the FTAA.

[2] The draft decision and conditions (included as Appendices A – C) and will be posted on the fast-track website and can be viewed here:
<https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/north-west-rapid-transit/draft-decision-and-conditions>

Section 70 of the Act

[3] Section 70 of the FTAA requires the Panel to direct the EPA to provide a copy of the draft conditions and draft decision to the Applicant, everyone who provided comments under s 53 and all relevant local authorities or

statutory bodies. The Panel directs accordingly. The Panel notes that under s 70, parties are only invited to comment on draft conditions, not the draft decision.

[4] The Panel requests that any of the above parties commenting on the draft conditions provide precise wording of any amendments sought to those conditions. This should be done using 'track changes' format. The Panel also requests that reasons are provided for the amendments sought, either by way of track change 'comments' or in a separate tabulated document.

[5] The Panel must also specify the date by which comments on the draft conditions must be received by the EPA. The Panel fixes 19 August 2026 as the date by which comments must be received by the EPA.

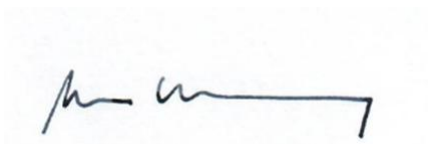
[6] As detailed in clause 4 of s 70, the Applicant must file any response to the comments received within 5 working days of comments close. The Applicant's response to the comments received under s 70 is therefore due by 26 August 2026.

[7] The Panel requests the Council includes the relevant consent reference numbers in the relevant locations within Appendix B (Consent Conditions) and Appendix D (Reasons for Consent).

Section 72 of the Act

[8] Under this section, the Panel must direct the EPA to invite comments from the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti and the Minister for Māori Development on the draft decision, including any draft conditions. The Panel directs accordingly.

[9] The Panel allows the Ministers 10 working days to comment on the draft decision, including as to the assessments made by the Panel in relation to relevant Treaty settlements and any draft conditions related to that assessment. Comments from the Ministers are therefore due on 26 August 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lachlan Muldowney', is positioned above the printed name.

Lachlan Muldowney

North West Rapid Transit Expert Panel Chair