

File ref: FTAA-2503-1028

11 April 2025

Penny Nelson  
Director-General of Conservation  
Department of Conservation  
C/- Fast-track team  
By email: [fast-track@doc.govt.nz](mailto:fast-track@doc.govt.nz)

Tēnā koe

### **Request for advice and reports under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024**

Port of Auckland Limited has lodged a substantive application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) on 10 March 2025. The Bledisloe North Wharf and Fergusson North Berth Extension application relates to constructing a new reinforced concrete-piled wharf structure at the Bledisloe Terminal, a reinforced concrete-piled extension to the existing Fergusson North Berth, a cruise passenger terminal, and fendering.

The EPA has decided that the application is complete and in scope under section 46 of the Act and provided the application to the panel convener. The substantive application seeks an approval for a wildlife approval under section 42(4)(h) of the Act.

Under section 51 of the Act, the panel convener has now directed the EPA to obtain from the Director-General of Conservation the following reports:

- In respect of the wildlife approval sought under section 42(4)(h) of the Act, a report prepared by the Director-General of Conservation in accordance with clause 3 of Schedule 7 of the Act.

The panel convener has also directed the EPA to obtain advice from the Department of Conservation in respect of the following:

- Pursuant to s 51(1) of the Act, if the Department of Conservation does not agree with or wishes to amplify upon the summary of law provided by Russell McVeagh in relation to the application, it is to file advice.
- Pursuant to s 51(2)(c) of the Act, if the Department of Conservation does not agree with or wishes to amplify upon the expert and planning assessment lodged in support of the wildlife approval, it is to file a report in accordance with schedule 7, clause 3 of the Act.

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- For the avoidance of doubt, the Department of Conservation does not need to respond if it concurs with the expert and planning assessments and legal submissions filed.
- If the Department of Conservation responds to the draft conditions, it is to do so suggesting amendments (if required). Any advice or report received will be provided by the EPA to persons listed in s 51(5) of the Act.

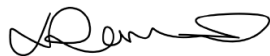
The panel convener has issued a Minute dated 10 April 2025 which outlines the panel convenor's directions in more detail. The Minute is attached as Appendix 1 to this letter.

In accordance with section 51(4)(a) of the Act, the Department of Conservation must provide the reports and advice requested to the EPA **within 10 working days after the panel invites comments under section 53 of the Act.**

At the direction of the panel convenor the EPA requests that the Department of Conservation confirms by **1 May 2025** if they do not intend to respond.

If you have any questions, please contact Alex Mickleson, Application Lead by email at [info@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:info@fasttrack.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



Elliott Dennett  
Team Leader, Fast-track Applications

Appendix 1 – Minute of the panel convener dated 10 April 2025 (attached as a separate document).

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