
NOTICE OF HEARING

Southern Link Inland Port FTAA-2604-1207

4 September 2026

[1] At the direction of the Panel, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) gives notice under section 57(3) of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 that the Panel will conduct a series of hearings on the Southern Link Inland Port on the following topics, commencing on the dates as below:

Topic	Format	Date	Start time
Transport	Online	14 September 2026	9.30am
Noise	Online	14 September 2026	2.30pm
Freshwater (Silver Stream/Whakaehu)	Distinction Hotel, Dunedin	15 September 2026	9am
Conditions	Online	22 September 2026	9.30am

[2] Only those participants invited to the hearing sessions as set out in Annexure A are to attend the hearings. The hearings will be recorded, transcribed and published on the website shortly after.

[3] Invited parties may appear and be heard at the hearing, may be represented, and may call evidence in relation to matters for which the hearing is being held. Invited parties must advise the EPA within 3 working days of the date of this notice (by 5pm 9 September 2026) whether they will attend the hearing.

[4] Experts who participated in the production of Joint Witness Statements in respect of Transport and Noise are required to attend online on 14 September 2026 at the required time.

[5] Invited parties and their relevant experts for the Freshwater hearing on 15 September 2026, are required to attend in person or remotely.

[6] If an invited party advises that they will attend but does not appear, the Panel may proceed with the hearing.

Hearing Procedures:

14 September 2026 Transport and Noise Hearing

[7] For Transport and Noise hearing times, expert witnesses will participate in a joint empanelment process whereby the Panel will ask questions of the experts on the matters addressed in the JWS and seek responses from each expert. The Panel may seek further clarification on those responses, related conditions or issues arising from the application materials or comments if required.

[8] The applicant and invited participant representative may not question expert witnesses directly, however, they may direct questions of clarification through the Chair.

15 September 2026 – Freshwater Hearing

[9] At the commencement of the hearing the Panel will hear from legal counsel for the applicant and Te Rūnanga o Otākou on matters relating to s7 FTAA, if required. If hearing time is required then the following directions apply:

- a) Legal submissions for Te Rūnanga o Otākou are to be filed with the EPA by **5pm on Wednesday 9th September 2026**.
- b) The applicant's legal submissions in response are to be filed by **5pm**

on Friday 11th September 2026.

[10] In relation to freshwater issues the invited participant representatives may provide a brief opening statement/legal submissions as to the outstanding issues related to the effects of the SLIP on Silverstream/Whakaehu. Opening statements are to be filed in writing by **Midday on Monday 14 September 2026.**

[11] The applicant's invited experts are to provide a summary statement (no more than 4 A4 pages) including any changes to their opinion and/or recommendations, following engagement with s53(2) commenters ORC, Otago Fish and Game Council and Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou, by **5pm Thursday 10 September 2026.**

[12] Invited commenter witnesses are to provide a summary statement (no more than 4 A4 pages) summarising their opinions, including any changes following further discussions with the applicant, by **midday on Monday 14th of September 2026.**

[13] The hearing will be conducted as a multi-disciplinary joint empanelment process where the Panel will direct questions to the experts and seek responses from others as they determine is appropriate.

[14] The applicant and invited commenter representative may not question witnesses directly, however, they may direct questions of clarification through the Chair.

[15] The Panel invited Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou in Minute 9 to advise whether it has a view on the venue and the appropriate tikanga for this hearing. Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou have confirmed there are no issues with the proposed venue or tikanga processes required.

22 September 2026 - conditions

[16] The Panel will confirm the agenda and issues for discussion following the hearings scheduled for 14 and 15 September 2026 and, if appropriate, will issue a further minute identifying the invited participants for that hearing

[17] The Panel expects to be assisted at the conditions hearing by the planners for the applicant, DCC and ORC, together with counsel, and by any expert whose recommended conditions remain in dispute.

[18] A revised consolidated set of proposed conditions for both the DCC and ORC, incorporating any changes agreed in the Joint Witness Statements and at the hearings on 14 and 15 September 2026, is to be filed by the applicant by **5pm on Friday 18 September 2026**

[19] If you have any questions regarding the hearing, please contact the Application Lead, by email info@fasttrack.govt.nz.



Awesta Seddiqi

Application Lead – Southern Link Inland Port

4 September 2026

Annexure A Invited Participants to Hearings

Transport

Party	Witness (JWS Signatory only)	Representative	Optional observer
Applicant	Chris Rossiter	Sarah Scott	Planner and applicant representatives
NZTA	Kellie Blackie Roy Johnston	Representative	Planner
DCC	Helen Chapman Reece Martin	Representative	Planner

Noise

Party	Witness (JWS signatory only)	Representative	Optional observer only
Applicant	Brendon Shanks	Sarah Scott	Planner and applicant representatives
DCC	Daniel Winter		Planner
Panel	Jeremy Trevathan/William Reeve		Planner
White Robe Lodge		Brian Anderton (Proprietor) and Karen Stewart (Stud Co-Manager)	
Mr and Mrs Stewart		Mr and Mrs Stewart	
Craig and Joanne Inch		Craig and Joanne Inch	

Freshwater

Party	Witness	Representative	Optional observer
Applicant	Andrew Craig (Stormwater) Nick Keenan (Stormwater Engineering) Dr Claire Conwell (Stormwater quality) Simon Bloomberg (Water Quality) Dr Richard Allibone (Freshwater Ecology and Freshwater Fish) Mark Scaife (hydrogeology) Bryony Miller (freshwater ecology) Roger Oakley (wastewater and water supply)	Sarah Scott	Planner and applicant representatives

ORC	Amanda Ling (natural hazards – stormwater) Jason Smith (Earthworks, Erosion and Sediment) Emily Lion-Cachet and Raymond Chang (Freshwater Ecology) Mike Thorley (hydrology) Dr Ben Waterhouse (land contamination)	Hannah Goslin	
Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou	Freshwater Specialist Dr Gail Tipa (author of TIA)	Mr Holme and Mrs Buxeda	Kā Rūnaka
Fish and Game	Nigel Paragreen	Representative	
Dunedin CC	Ben Throssell (natural hazards – hydrology and flooding)	John Sule (Consultant Planner)	