

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE 1 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Invitation to Comment
Green Steel [FTAA-2506-1074]

(20 October 2025)

[1] This minute addresses invitations to comment on the Application under section 53 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2025 (the FTAA).

[2] The Expert Panel (**Panel**) records that it undertook a site visit on Monday 6th October 2025. The Panel confirms that it undertook its site visit prior to finalising the invitations to comment on this application.

[3] In accordance with section 53(2) of the FTAA, the Panel must invite comments from persons listed in sections 53(2)(a) to (n) where relevant. In this regard, the Panel records that section 53(2)(d) to (g) is not relevant. **Appendix 1** provides the list of prescribed persons relevant to this project from whom comments must be invited.

[4] Waikato Regional Council and Waikato District Council have been identified as the relevant local authorities pursuant to section 53(2)(a) of the FTAA.

[5] Section 53(2)(h) and (i) of the FTAA state that the owners and occupiers of land to which the Application relates, and the land adjacent to that land, must be invited to comment. The EPA has also provided its advice to the Panel based on the Guidance Note entitled: *FTA Guidance Material Identifying Adjacent Land*.

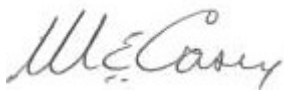
[6] Under section 53(3) of the FTAA, the Panel also has discretion to invite comments from any other person the Panel considers appropriate. While the discretion is broadly framed, it must be exercised in a principled way. The Panel has identified that owners of bores that may lie within the potential influence of the proposed groundwater abstraction should also be invited to comment as well as parties that manage power, water and drainage in the area. For this reason owners of bores within 3km of the site have been invited to comment. These parties are listed in **Appendix 3**.

[7] The invitations to comment are to be issued on **20 October 2025** and the due date for comments is 20 working days after this date (section 54 of the FTAA) namely, **18 November 2025**.

[8] Comments must be filed with the EPA no later than 11:59pm on **18 November 2025** via:

- a. email to substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz; or
- b. by post to Private Bag 63002, Wellington 6140 New Zealand; or
- c. in person to Stewart Dawson's Corner, 366 Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011

Matthew Casey
Green Steel Expert Panel Chair



Appendix 1
Parties invited to Comment under section 53(2) of the Act

Section of Act	Description from Act	Party identified
53(2)(a)	the relevant local authorities	• Waikato Regional Council • Waikato District Council
53(2)(b)	the relevant iwi authorities	• Te Whakakitenga o Waikato • Ngati Tamaoho Trust • Ngati Maru Runanga Trust • Ngati Hako - Hako Tupuna Trust • Waikato Raupatu River Trust • Waikato River Authority
53(2)(c)	any relevant Treaty settlement entities, including, to avoid doubt,— (i) an entity that has an interest under a Treaty settlement within the area to which the substantive application relates; and (ii) an entity operating in a collective arrangement, provided for under a Treaty settlement, that relates to that area	• Te Whakakitenga o Waikato • Waikato Raupatu River Trust • Waikato River Authority • Ngati Tamaoho Settlement Trust • Pare Hauraki Collective • Ngāti Koheriki Claims Committee
53(2)(d)	any protected customary rights groups and customary marine title groups whose protected customary	• N/A

	rights area or customary marine title is within the area to which the substantive application relates	
53(2)(e)	any applicant group under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 that is identified in the report prepared under section 18 or 49 and seeks recognition of customary marine title or protected customary rights within the area to which the substantive application relates	• N/A
53(2)(f)	• ngā hapū o Ngāti Porou if the area to which the substantive application relates is within or adjacent to, or the activities to which it relates would directly affect, ngā rohe moana o ngā hapū o Ngāti Porou	• N/A
53(2)(g)	the tangata whenua of any area within the area to which the substantive application relates that is a taiāpure-local fishery, a mātaimai reserve, or an area that is subject to bylaws or regulations made under Part 9 of the Fisheries Act 1996	• N/A
53(2)(h)	owners of the land to which the substantive application relates (Owners of land adjacent to that land is covered in Table 2 as the Expert	• See Appendix 2

	Panel must exercise judgement on what is considered adjacent)	
53(2)(i)	occupiers of the land to which the substantive application relates unless, after reasonable inquiry, an occupier cannot be identified	• See Appendix 2
53(2)(j)	the Minister for the Environment and other relevant portfolio Ministers	• Minister for the Environment • Minister for Regional Development • Minister of Justice • Minister for Infrastructure • Minister for Climate Change
53(2)(k)	relevant administering agencies	• Ministry for the Environment
53(2)(l)	any requiring authority that has a designation on land to which the substantive application relates or on land adjacent to that land	• N/A
53(2)(m)	if the approvals sought in the substantive application include— (i) an approval described in section 42(4)(a) or (d) (resource consent or designation), the persons and groups listed in clause 13 of Schedule 5	• N/A
53(2)(n)	any persons or groups specified by the Minister under section	• N/A - listed project

	27(3)(b)(iii).	
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Appendix 2

Owners and occupiers of the properties to which the substantive application relates and the land adjacent to that land

Owners of the land to which the substantive application relates
Lots 2-5 DP 310030 and Lot 1 DP 45893
Occupiers of the land adjacent to the land to which the substantive application relates
61C Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata 61A Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata 61D Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata 61 Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata 91 Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata
Owners of the adjacent land
Land that has a common boundary with the land to which the substantive application relates and is considered adjacent: 148 Wattle Road RD 2 Te Kauwhata 3782 254 Hall Road RD 2 Te Kauwhata 3782 - PO Box 259136 Botany Auckland 2136 - Lots 2 and 3 DP SA 45006 and Lot 2 DP SA 91891, Land that does not have a common boundary but is close enough to form part of the context of the application site and could be considered adjacent: - Lots 1,2,4, 5 DP 411257 and Unit 104 DP 411941 - Unit 310 DP 411943 - Unit 409 DP 411944 - Lot 10 DP 411257 - Unit 3 DP 414519 Section 27-28 SOP 340441 - Lot 6 DP 411257 - Lot 1 DP 419130
Occupiers of the adjacent land

- 29 Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata
- 23 Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata
- 43 Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata
- 61B Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata
- 113 Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata
- 136 Hampton Downs Road, Whangamarino, Te Kauwhata

Appendix 3

Other parties considered appropriate to invite comment from

Other Māori groups identified in the section 18 report
• Ngāti Naho • Ngati te Ata • Ngati Paoa • Ngati Tamatera • Ngati Whanaunga • Ngāti Hine (ki Waikato) • Horahora Marae (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Mahuta, Ngāti Naho and Ngāti Pou) • Maurea Marae (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Mahuta, Ngāti Naho and Ngāti Pou) • Ngā Muka Development Trust.
Other parties invited to comment
• Owners of the following water bores; - Clune Road - 39127, 39128, 39471 - 238 Hampton Downs roads – 39129, 42914, 49644, 49984, 50074, 50099, 50172 - 347 A Hampton Downs Road – 49585, 49591, 49621, 49771, 49913, 49969, 50154, 50196, 50338, 57400 - 135 Hampton Downs Road - 50052 - 96 Springhill Road - 40780 - 354 Whangamarino Road - 48772 - 147 Wattle Road - 57086 • WEL Power • Te Kauwahata Water Association • Meremere East drainage