

---

## MINUTE OF THE PANEL CONVENER

### Request for Section 51 reports for Takitimu North Link - Stage 2 [FTAA-2507-1085] (8 September 2025)

---

[1] This Minute directs the EPA to obtain advice and reports under section 51 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024. Specifically, the EPA is to seek:

- (a) A report from the Director-General of Conservation regarding both the wildlife approval and the complex freshwater fisheries activity approval, as outlined in clauses 3 and 4 of Schedules 7 and 9 respectively.
- (b) Reports from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and the Māori Heritage Council concerning the archaeological authority, as specified in clause 3 of Schedule 8.

### Specific directions to the Director-General of Conservation

[2] The Director-General of Conservation is to:

- (a) file a report advising how the weighting of matters set out in Schedule 7, clause 3 of the Act should be approached, having regard to relevant senior court decisions, pursuant to section 51(1) of the Act;
- (b) file a report in accordance with schedule 7, clause 3 of the Act, if the Director-General of Conservation disagrees with, or wishes to amplify, the expert and planning assessment lodged in support of the wildlife approval.

[3] For the avoidance of doubt, the Director-General of Conservation:

- (a) may confirm and append advice previously given in response to a panel convener's directions under s 51(1) on another project; and
- (b) does not need to provide an assessment of the approval pursuant to s 51(2)(c) if it concurs with the expert and planning assessments filed by the applicant.

[4] The Director-General of Conservation is to respond to the draft conditions, including any management plan attached to the application, recommending track-changed amendments (if any).

[5] Any advice or report received will be provided by the EPA to persons listed in s 51(5).



Helen Atkins

Associate Panel Convener for the purpose of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024