

Hon Tama Potaka

Minister of Conservation
Minister for Māori Crown Relations
Minister for Māori Development
Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing



Expert Panel

By email: substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz

Mauriora

Invitation to comment on the Taranaki VTM project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the Taranaki VTM project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

I am currently neutral on whether this application should be approved by the Expert Panel. I recommend however, the Expert Panel have regard to:

- comments received from the Treaty Settlement groups identified in paragraph 30 of the section 18 report developed by the Ministry for the Environment, and in the Expert Panel's Minute under Appendix 1;
- comments received on the impact of the proposed application on the ability of tangata whenua to exercise customary food-gathering practices under the authority of kaitiaki/tiaki (the Fisheries (Kaimoana Customary Fishing) Regulations 1998) in the area;
- comments received on the impact of quota allocation and management under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004; and
- the statutory acknowledgements of the following Treaty Settlements, with particular interest to coastal marine areas;
 - Ngāti Ruanui Claims Settlement Act 2003;
 - Ngāa Rauru Claims Settlement Act 2005;
 - Ngāti Apa (North Island) Claims Settlement Act 2010;
 - Ngāruahine Claims Settlement Act 2016; and
 - Taranaki Iwi Claims Settlement Act 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Tama Potaka'.

Hon Tama Potaka
Te Minita Whanaketanga Māori me Te Minita mō Te Arawhiti