

Appendix Five Solar Farm Project information (as of January 2026)

Key:
Scale of project: Large Scale- solar installations that have a peak capacity over 1 MWp.
Early concept / site option only → <i>Low likelihood</i> (potentially <25%) Land secured + feasibility studies underway → <i>Moderate likelihood</i> (40–60%) Grid discussions + technical assessments commissioned → <i>High likelihood</i> (60–80%) Formal grid agreement / funding / consenting strategy confirmed → <i>Very high likelihood</i> (>80%)

Project name and applicant details	Description	Scale of Project ¹	Current Status	How likely is a project to progress to the resource consent and other approvals (if relevant) stage ² ?	Does it Impact on Ngai Tahu Settlement?	Information source(s)
Haldon Solar Project (Lodestone Energy)	Construct and operate a solar farm on 320-hectares of a 7689-hectare site adjacent to Lake Benmore, south of Haldon Arm Road, 14-kilometres southeast of Twizel, and to	Large Scale 180 MW peak output. 360,000 (approx.) solar panels across 320ha.	Proceeding under the Fast Track Approval process- The applicant has lodged a substantive application which is being considered by the appointed expert panel. Decision due on 29 May 2026.	Project is at consenting /approvals stage- a decision on the substantive application (under the FTAA) is due on 29 May 2026.	Yes- Nohoanga entitlement, Statutory Acknowledgement , potential impacts on Taonga species.	https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/haldon-solar

¹ Commercial-scale solar is defined as systems between 10kw and 1MW. <https://www.eeca.govt.nz/assets/EECA-Resources/Research-papers-guides/Commercial-scale-solar-in-New-Zealand.pdf> . Grid scale solar installations have a peak capacity over 1 MWp. <https://northpower.nz/renewables/grid-scale-solar/>

² There is no presumption that all identified solar project proposals will obtain the required approvals (including resource consents) sought under either the FTAA or other normal approval/ consenting processes. Rather, the table is intended to identify how far advanced each solar farm project is in the consenting process, based on the latest available information.

Project name and applicant details	Description	Scale of Project ¹	Current Status	How likely is a project to progress to the resource consent and other approvals (if relevant) stage ² ?	Does it Impact on Ngai Tahu Settlement?	Information source(s)
	connect and supply electricity to the national grid. The solar farm will have an approximate peak output of 180 Megawatts.					
The Point (Far North Solar)	Construct and operate an approximately 670-hectare solar farm at the northern shore of Lake Benmore between the Pukaki River and the Ohau C hydro canal, to supply electricity to the national grid.	Large Scale 450 MW peak output 730,000+ solar panels across 670ha.	Proceeding under the Fast Track Approval process -The applicant has lodged a substantive application which is being considered by the appointed expert panel. Decision due on 17 June 2026.	Project is at consenting /approvals stage - a decision on the substantive application under the FTAA is due on 17 June 2026.	Yes, as above	https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/the-point-solar-farm
Twizel Solar Project (Nova Energy)	Establishment and operation of a 300-megawatt solar farm over 500 hectares of an 868-hectare site to the east of Twizel Township. Once operational and connected to the National Grid, the project will generate enough renewable	Large Scale 300 MW peak output 500ha site (number of panels unknown).	Proceeding under the Fast Track Approval process - the applicant is currently preparing a substantive application and is actively engaging with mana whenua and TRONT. The substantive application is expected to be lodged in Mid- 2026. It is understood that a substantive application	Very High likelihood - the applicant is currently drafting substantive application for lodgement by Mid-2026.	Yes- as above	https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/twizel-solar-project

Project name and applicant details	Description	Scale of Project ¹	Current Status	How likely is a project to progress to the resource consent and other approvals (if relevant) stage ² ?	Does it Impact on Ngai Tahu Settlement?	Information source(s)
	energy annually to power 75,000 homes.		must be lodged by 1 August 2027³ .			
Grampians (Helios Energy)	Construct and operate a 300 mega-watt solar farm with co-located energy storage, located on 574 hectares of pastoral land in the south-eastern corner of the Mackenzie Basin, 21 km south-east of Tekapo in the Canterbury Region.	Large Scale 300 MW peak output 500,000 solar panels across 574ha (approx.)	Project referred under the FTAA. TRoNT has not received any updates on status of the substantive application but understands that the deadline for lodging a substantive application is 15 May 2027⁴ .	Very High likelihood- while the applicant has yet to lodge a substantive application and there are no current project updates, the applicant has significant time to lodge an application (before the set deadline).	Yes- potential impacts on statutory acknowledgement and Taonga species.	https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/grampians-solar-project/referral-application
Balmoral Station Solar Array (AW and KF Simpson)	Construct and operate a solar farm with a maximum generation capacity of approximately 88 Megawatts and consists of approximately 135,000 solar panels and connect and supply electricity to the national grid. Located on 100 hectares at 397	Large Scale 88 MW peak output 135,000 solar panels over 100 ha (approx.).	Project listed project under Schedule 2 of the FTAA. TRoNT has not received any updates on status of the substantive application. As the project is listed it is understood that there is no set deadline for lodging a substantive application.	Very High likelihood - the project is listed under the FTAA and while TRoNT has no information about the project status and no substantive application has been lodged yet, there is no deadline for lodging a substantive application. Further, the project could be progressed through a normal RMA consenting	Potentially- Further assessment required to determine potential impacts.	https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/balmoral-station-solar-array

³ As per Section 27(3)(d)(ii)

⁴ As specified by the Minister in the Referral Decision.

Project name and applicant details	Description	Scale of Project ¹	Current Status	How likely is a project to progress to the resource consent and other approvals (if relevant) stage ² ?	Does it Impact on Ngai Tahu Settlement?	Information source(s)
	Braemar Road, Balmoral Station, Lake Tekapo.			process (should the applicant choose to do so).		
Twizel Solar Farm (Twizel Solar Farm Ltd)	Construct and operate a solar farm on a 604-ha site at 2411-2413 Twizel-Omarama Road, Omarama, Twizel and to connect and supply the national grid. The solar farm will have an approximate peak output of 300 megawatts.	Large Scale 300 MW peak output on 604ha site (number of panels unknown).	Unclear/ no information available on project TRoNT has not been approached by the applicant and is not aware of any recent project updates. It is however understood that the applicant sought to have the project listed under the FTAA, but it did not make the list. The applicant could seek to use the fast-track approval process by lodging a referral application or could potentially go through a normal RMA consenting process.	High likelihood - given the applicant has secured a project site and previously sought to have the project listed (under the FTAA), it seems likely that the project will be progressed, either under the FTAA or through a normal RMA consenting process.	<u>Yes- near two nohoanga entitlements. May also impact on taonga species.</u>	https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-Track-Unlisted/Twizel-Solar-Farm/213.05_FTA213-Twizel-Solar-Farm-Sch-2B-MfE-assessment-form-Stage-1_Redacted.pdf
Mackenzie Basin Solar Farm (Kakariki Renewables)	Mackenzie Basin is a proposed 600-megawatt (MW) solar farm with potential for a 300 MW / 1,200 MWh battery energy storage system	Large Scale 600 MW peak output. Size of site and number of solar panels unknown.	Unclear/ no information available on project TRoNT has not been approached by Kakariki Renewables in relation to the solar farm proposal, including the project location and the potential	High to Moderate Likelihood* - while there is limited publicly available information, it is understood that initial feasibility assessment has been undertaken and	TBC- the location of project site (southeast of Twizel) is unknown at present.	https://kakarikirenewables.com/mackenzie-solar

Project name and applicant details	Description	Scale of Project ¹	Current Status	How likely is a project to progress to the resource consent and other approvals (if relevant) stage ² ?	Does it Impact on Ngai Tahu Settlement?	Information source(s)
	(BESS) located southeast of Twizel, Mackenzie District. Enough to power over 128,000 homes across Aotearoa.		consenting/approval pathway. However, Kakariki Renewables website indicates that the project is currently in the project development stage with planning approvals, community and engagement and commercial agreements being advanced.	that the project is at consenting preparation stage. As such it could be progressed under the FTAA (i.e. submit a referral application). Alternatively, the project could be progressed through a normal RMA consenting (and approval) process.		
Ohau A (Far North Solar)	In design phase Size: 280 Mega Watts Peak Area: 286 ha Homes powered: c52,000. Located between hydro canal from Lake Ohau to the Ohau A power station and the Ohau River⁵.	Large Scale 280 MW peak output on 286ha site (number of panels unknown).	Initial project design stage	Moderate Likelihood- while the project appears to be in the early design/ feasibility stage, it could (at a later stage) be progressed under the FTAA (i.e. submit a referral application). Alternatively, the project could be progressed through a normal RMA consenting (and approval) process.	TBC/Potentially- Further information required to assess project.	https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/14922/Department-of-Conservation-memo-to-panel-convenor_Redacted.pdf
Irishman Creek Station Limited Project (Manawa Energy)	Construct and operate a solar farm on a 500ha site.	Large Scale 220 MW peak output on 500ha site (number of		Moderate Likelihood- while the project appears to be in the early design/ feasibility stage, it could (at a later stage) be	TBC/Potentially- Further information required to assess project.	https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-

⁵ Lot 3 DP 75206

Project name and applicant details	Description	Scale of Project ¹	Current Status	How likely is a project to progress to the resource consent and other approvals (if relevant) stage ² ?	Does it Impact on Ngai Tahu Settlement?	Information source(s)
	The solar farm will have an approximate peak output of 220 Megawatts. Located on Powerhouse Road/ Tekapo Canal Rd,	panels unknown).		progressed under the FTAA (i.e. submit a referral application). Alternatively, the project could be progressed through a normal RMA consenting (and approval) process.		is-doing/Fast-Track-Unlisted/Irishman-Creek-Station-Limited/073.02-Irishman-Creek-Solar-Farm-Location.pdf https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-Track-Unlisted/Irishman-Creek-Station-Limited/073.05-FTA073-Irishman-Creek-Station-Limited-Sch-2B-MfE-assessment-form-Stage-1_Redacted.pdf