

5 June 2026

Environmental Protection Authority
Te Mana Rauhō Taiao
Private Bag 63002
Wellington 6140

Re: Haldon Solar Farm Response to Minute 18

Dear Panel,

Lodestone thanks the Panel for Minute 18 and the clarification provided regarding the remaining key issues requiring further action.

Lodestone has carefully considered the matters raised in paragraph [9] of Minute 18 and confirms that it has incorporated updates to the conditions to address each of items (a) through (e).

Updated conditions are attached and draft management plans will be updated to reflect the content of the final condition set (before certification by Council to confirm the management plans reflect the objectives of the conditions). The conditions and updates to management plans respond to the Panel's requests regarding:

- (a) Kakī/black stilt funding: Lodestone have discussed a combined approach with DOC, wherein \$500,000 is paid upfront and \$500,000 is payable following adaptive management triggers.
- (b) Further pre-construction threatened plant surveys and avoidance measures: Lodestone confirms it has committed to complete pre-construction spring annual surveys for all Nationally Threatened plants. Further, we will include an exclusion buffer to ensure no shading from solar panels and no other effects caused by construction activities wherever a Nationally Threatened plant is identified.
- (c) Mammalian predator exclusion fencing and associated management: Lodestone agrees to change our default fencing specification to reflect the requirements of Minute 18 and to provide DOC and other ecological technical advisors the ability to approve and certify the fence specifications in the appropriate management plans before construction starts and to apply an enduring legal mechanism to secure the conservation status of the enhancement land in perpetuity.
- (d) Rabbit-permeable perimeter fencing: Lodestone agrees to change our default fencing specification to reflect the requirements of Minute 18 and to provide DOC and other



ecological technical advisors the ability to approve and certify the fence specifications in the appropriate management plans before construction starts.

- (e) A long-term applied ecological research programme with an annual funding commitment of \$10,000 (with an upfront \$30,000 contribution for the first three years) to ensure relevant data is made available to the scientific community through notes, presentations, journals and peer-reviewed literature.

For ease of reference, the following conditions have been amended or added in response to Minute 18:

Minute 18 Item	Updated Condition Reference(s)
(a) Kakī funding	Condition 115
(b) Threatened plant surveys and avoidance	Condition 81, 82 and 83
(c) Enhancement area predator exclusion fence	Conditions 54, 56, 57, 71, 72 and 75
(d) Solar farm rabbit-permeable perimeter fence	Conditions 54, 57, 72 and 75
(e) Ecological research programme	Conditions 62 and 120

In terms of the most efficient next steps, Lodestone considers that the Panel now has before it all information necessary to determine the application. The updated conditions directly respond to the matters raised in Minute 18 and any outstanding commitments will be covered through updates to the various management plans to be certified by Council with input from DOC. Lodestone is committed to ongoing engagement with DOC and mana whenua and we intend to use the section 70(1) comments on draft conditions and section 70(4) response to comments processes efficiently in order to incorporate further feedback to the content of the updated conditions if required.

Lodestone thanks the Panel for its assistance and engagement throughout the process, including the guidance provided in Minute 18.

Yours faithfully,

Daniel Cunningham

GM, Development

Lodestone Energy Limited



Appendix A - Updated Mackenzie District Council Condition Set