

Haldon Solar Project – Evidence of Blueprint Ecology Ltd Lizard Assessment

LODESTONE ENERGY LIMITED
HALDON SOLAR PROJECT
Lizard Assessment

Evidence of Tony Payne
Regarding Lizard Assessment of the Haldon Solar Project Effects and Proposed Conditions

INTRODUCTION

My name is Tony Payne. My role in relation to the Haldon Solar Project has been to provide expert herpetology advice in relation to Haldon Solar Project. I wrote the Haldon Solar Lizard Assessment which is provided with the application.

This evidence has been prepared to accompany the application by Lodestone Energy Limited for approvals required for the Haldon Solar Project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“FTAA”). It has been prepared on the understanding that the process for determining applications under the FTAA does not require a hearing to be held.

While this application is not being considered by the Environment Court, I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses contained in the Environment Court of New Zealand Practice Note 2023 and that I have complied with it when preparing this evidence.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Mr Payne has over 10-years direct experience surveying native lizards from Northland to Otago. Sectors include windfarms, solar farms, national highways, quarries, and subdivisions and has included large scale lizard survey designs, development of lizard salvage programs, monitoring, mitigation habitat design and specific predator control plans. He has surveyed over 2,000 native lizards of 19 different species, including the common potential species within the proposed development area.

- Qualifications: BSc (Hons) (Biological Sciences) University of Canterbury.
- Affiliations/ membership; EIANZ, SRARNZ, Nelson Botanical Society

Current and Previous Wildlife Act Authorities held:

Auckland salvage: 62230-FAU, 66672-FAU, 70820-FAU.

Wellington salvage: 81670-FAU, 91371-FAU, 93616-FAU, 102442-FAU, 111140-FAU, 117207-FAU, 117925-FAU, 120108-FAU.

Wellington/ Nelson survey: 91417-FAU, 107412-FAU.

Nelson salvage: 118355-FAU

Waikato survey: 117601-FAU.

Canterbury salvage: 98153-FAU.

National survey: 118461-FAU.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT

I confirm that in my opinion the Lizard Assessment contains an accurate and appropriate description of the environment, the actual and potential effects of the Haldon Solar Project, and the recommended actions to manage those effects within my area of expertise.

Dated this 10 day of February 2025.



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Tony Payne

Principal Ecologist

Blueprint Ecology Ltd