Fast-track

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

10 September 2026

FTAA-2606 1255

Lynley Fletcher
Meridian Energy (the applicant)
Email: s9(2)(a)

c/o Alia Cederman
Tonkin & Taylor Limited (the agent)
Email: s9(2)(a)

Dear Alia and Lynley

Request for further information on the referral application of the Western Bays Solar Farm project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024,

Note: The further information response must be received by **1 October 2026, 11.59PM.**

The Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) has received your referral application for the Western Bays Solar Farm project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act).

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 20 of the Act to request the following information:

1. there are land parcels within the project area that are subject to Part IVA of the Conservation Act 1987. Please provide sufficient information, including mapping, surveying and/or supporting assessments, to identify all streams, tributaries and wetlands within the project area on any land parcels subject to Part IVA, to confirm whether they meet the definition of a "qualifying water body" under that Act.
2. with regard to the above, please confirm whether any marginal strips are present, and if so, please provide details of their location, extent and legal status, and identify whether any aspect of the proposed project would occur within, over, across, or otherwise affect those marginal strips.
3. if marginal strips are present and are likely to be affected by the project, please identify whether any approvals, concessions, easements, licences or other authorisations under the Conservation Act 1987 would be required, and provide the basis for that assessment.

If you wish to provide the information requested, you must respond within **15 working days** of the date of this request (refer to the due date above). The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame.

Before the due date, please upload any information to the application portal feedback page.

Alternatively, if you wish to email the information or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Antonia Croft.

For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Operations