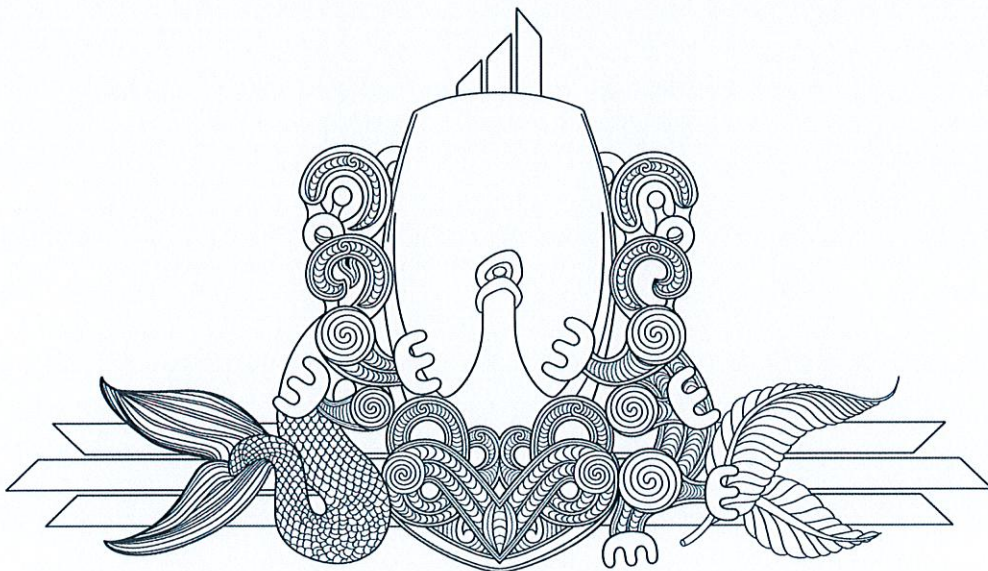


BEFORE THE PANEL CONVENERS UNDER THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024

IN THE MATTER OF an application for resource consents under
the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA) by
Manawa Energy Ltd for activities associated
with a listed project, being the Kaimai
Hydroelectric Power Scheme Re-Consenting

MEMORANDUM OF DAVE NUKU FOR NGĀTI HANGARAU AND NGAMANAWA
INCORPORATION – NGĀTI RANGINUI

DATED 18 NOVEMBER 2025



NGĀTI HANGARAU

Introduction

1. This memorandum has been prepared for the Panel Convener addressing the Kaimai Hydroelectric Power Scheme (KHEPS) Re-Consenting Project (the Project). It is recognised as a listed project within the schedule of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA).
2. The General Manager of Ngamanawa Incorporation & member of Ngāti Hangarau KHEPS Governance Group (Dave Nuku) and consultant planner (Greg Carlyon, The Catalyst Group) will attend the conference consistent with the directions of the Panel Convener.
3. Correspondence in relation to the right to be heard before the Panel Convener at the 19 November 2025 conference was provided to the Application Lead at the Environment Protection Authority on 18 November 2025.

General

4. Ngamanawa Inc. and Ngāti Hangarau are recognised entities within Ngāti Ranginui and hold a deep inseparable connection to the whenua, awa, and taiao over which the KHEPS sits and operates.
5. The development and operation of the scheme have had and continue to have significant effects on both cultural and biophysical values. These matters are well traversed in the Cultural Impact Assessment and documentation developed alongside Manawa Energy over the past three years.
6. The relationship with Manawa Energy is a constructive, positive, and engaging one. The ability to work with the Manawa team kanohi ki te kanohi has led to improved understanding of the positions held and initial responses to address adverse effects on our interests. The applicant's and our whānau's approach is represented in a Partnership Agreement, signed in early November 2025.
7. The positive relationship between the parties is not commonly experienced, and significant work has been undertaken to maintain this positive approach. However, this does not negate the fact that the KHEPS generates adverse effects that need to be reconciled within the mechanisms available through the Fast-track process.
8. It is our strong view that time taken to wānanga on the fundamental outstanding issues and work in detail on a set of high-quality consent conditions will allow the granting of the consents sought in a way that future generations of Ngāti Hangarau whānau can avoid maemae.
9. Ngamanawa Inc. and Ngāti Hangarau agree with Manawa Energy the following matters:
 - a. The approvals sought are appropriately described by the Applicant.

- b. The changes to the KHEPS, in particular, changes to the residual flows, are correctly described.
- c. The critical issues for exploration within the process are well articulated.
- d. The matters of control over which the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) has authority.

Complexity

- 10. It is the view of Ngamanawa Inc. and Ngāti Hangarau that the Application, and its resolution, has a relatively high degree of complexity. This is evident in the inter-related and as yet unresolved issues associated with cultural and biophysical values.
- 11. To that end, our whānau seek a timeframe for the Panel-led Fast-track process that respects both our tikanga and produces enduring solutions on our whenua and awa and for our people.

Procedural matters

- 12. Ngamanawa Inc. and Ngāti Hangarau will continue to work constructively with Manawa Energy through the months ahead. However, the opportunity to engage directly with the Panel for the purposes of sharing our positions and responses to the Application is strongly desired.
- 13. We do not seek a formal hearing process and would welcome the opportunity to work with the Applicant and Panel in a way that acknowledges our standing as an iwi and hapū. This could include use of Ngāti Hangarau marae for engagement processes at the discretion of the Panel.
- 14. In line with the positions set out above, it is our view that there will be significant value in expert and/or broader conferencing. This is particularly the case given both unresolved matters and the need for BOPRC (as the consenting agency) to understand and respond to issues raised by mana whenua. To date there has been no engagement from BOPRC.
- 15. Considering the above commentary, we consider it appropriate to set a time of 80 working days from the time the panel has received comments from the parties to the Application. Respectfully, Ngamanawa Inc. and Ngāti Hangarau do not see the time sought as a hindrance of the ongoing operation of the KHEPS or the efficient development of a decision on this matter.
- 16. We look forward to discussing these matters with the Panel Convener and Applicant at the forthcoming conference on the 19 November 2025.

DATED at Tauranga this 18th day of November 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Nuku', with a large, stylized flourish underneath.

Dave Nuku

General Manager for Ngamanawa Inc &
Member of the Ngāti Hangarau KHEPS
Governance Group.