

File ref: FTAA-2510-1118

2 December 2025

Penny Nelson
Director General of Conservation
Department of Conservation
C/- Fast-track team
By Email: fast-track@doc.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

Request for advice and reports under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Wellington International Airport Limited has lodged a substantive application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) on 23 April 2025. The Wellington International Airport Southern Seawall Renewal application (the application) relates to the replacement and upgrade of the existing seawall located at the southern end of the runway. On 14 November 2025 the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) decided that the application complies with section 46(2) of the Act.

The EPA has decided that the application is complete and in scope under section 46 of the Act and provided the application to the panel convener. The substantive application seeks an approval for a wildlife approval under section 42(4)(h).

Under section 51 of the Act, the panel convener has now directed the EPA to obtain from the Director-General of Conservation the following reports:

- In respect of the wildlife approval under **section 42(4)(h)** of the Act, a report prepared by the Director-General of Conservation in accordance with **clause 3 of Schedule 7** of the Act:

The panel convener has also directed the EPA to obtain advice from the Department of Conservation in respect of the following:

- For the avoidance of doubt, the Director-General of Conservation may confirm and append advice previously given in response to a panel convener's directions under s 51(1) on another project and does not need to provide an assessment of the approval pursuant to s 51(2)(c) if it concurs with the expert and planning assessments filed by the applicant.

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- The Director-General of Conservation is to respond to the draft conditions, including any management plan attached to the application, recommending track-changed amendments (if any).

Any advice or report received will be provided by the EPA to the persons listed in section 51(5).

The panel convener has issued a Minute dated 2 December 2025 which outlines the panel convenor's directions in more detail. The Minute is attached as **Appendix 1** to this letter.

The Department of Conservation must provide the reports within 10 working days after the panel invites comments under section 53 in accordance with section 51(4)(a) of the Act.

If you have any questions, please contact Daya Thomson, Application Leader by email at info@fasttrack.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

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