

McLean Company Ltd,

11/01/2026

Fasttrack Approval Panel,

We are writing in **support** of Westpower's Waitaha Hydro Project application currently being considered in the FastTrack Approvals Act 2024.

Our farming business (McLean Company Ltd) is an affected party due to it being at the end of the Waitaha Road [REDACTED] and being used by Westpower for road access to their worksites, staging areas, soil disposal & gravel extraction. Plus a separate route for their transmission lines across the farm.

When we were initially approached regarding the Westpower proposal over 10 years ago we were in favour of the scheme thinking it was a fantastic renewable resource and would be great for the power resilience in the region.

A big reason for supporting this project is any detrimental effects on our farming business (apart from the transmission lines) will only be short lived during the 3-4 year construction period. It will cause no long-term damage to our infrastructure or the environmental paradise surrounding our farm.

But the huge benefits to the West Coast economy and providing a new source of power generation to the region will hopefully be forever.

A long-term benefit to us will be the development of some rough paddocks at the back of our farm using the tunnel spoil.

Another reason for supporting the West Coast Waitaha Hydro project will be the large reduction in line transmission loss from the east coast to the west coast region with the new scheme, therefore in time this may benefit the West Coast population with cheaper power and line charges. It will also benefit the community, region and country with job opportunities whilst the project is under construction.

In our view it is a sensible, practical use of run of the river water to provide great environmentally, green renewable power generation, where the water is creating economic benefit to the West Coast region and the whole country before it runs out to sea.

Yours Sincerely

George & Marianne McLean

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]