

UNDER THE

Fast-track approvals Act 2024

IN THE MATTER OF

an application by the Trans-Tasman Resources
Limited under the FTAA for marine consents

**MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FOR ŌKAHU INUĀWAI, KĀNIHI UMUTAHĪ,
NGĀTI MANUHIKAI, ARAUKUUKU, NGĀTI TŪ, AND TE PATUTOKOTOKO**

Dated this 14th day of November 2025

INTRODUCTION

1. This memorandum is filed on behalf of:
 - (a) Ōkahu-Inuāwai;
 - (b) Kānihi-Umutahi;
 - (c) Ngāti Manuhiakai;
 - (d) Araukuuku;
 - (e) Ngāti Tū; and
 - (f) Te Patutokotoko.
2. Ms Eve Rongo will appear at the hearing as counsel representing Ōkahu-Inuāwai, Kānihi Umutahi, Araukuuku, and Te Patutokotoko.
3. Mr James Gardner-Hopkins will represent Ngāti Manuhiakai and Ngāti Tū.
4. Mr Gardner-Hopkins is a specialist resource management / environmental consultant.
5. He has a legal background and over 25 years in the field, most of which has been as a practising lawyer. In the last three, and now nearly four, years, he has been consulting and project managing on RMA and Fast Track Projects, for both applicants and opponents.
6. He was also legal counsel for the Taranaki-Whanganui Conservation Board through the set of appeal proceedings that culminated in the Supreme Court decision of *Trans-Tasman Resources Limited v The Taranaki-Whanganui Conservation Board* [2021] NZSC 127.
7. At the time of writing, Mr Gardner-Hopkins does not have a practising certificate, and cannot appear as counsel or make legal submissions. Rather, his oral (and any later written) responses to Panel questions must be taken as “representations”. That said, in a similar way that an expert will usually confirm compliance with the Environment Court

code of conduct even if they are appearing before a Council Panel, or a Panel such as this Panel, he will confirm that in making these representations he is complying with the duties to the Panel that a lawyer would ordinarily have to meet. The weight to be afforded to these representations will be a matter for the Panel to determine, in all the circumstances and in the usual way as to logic, cogency, persuasiveness and an assessment of the authorities.

Dated this 14th day of November 2025



Eve Kahuwaero Rongo

Counsel for Ngāti Manuhiakai, Kanihi Umutahi me ētehi atu hapū and Ōkahu Inuawai me ētehi atu hapū



Lisa Black

Counsel for Araukuuku, Ngāti Tū, and Te Patutokotoko