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## MINUTE OF THE PANEL CONVENER

Request for Section 51 report for the Mahinerangi Wind Farm Project  
[FTAA-2510-1125]

(12 December 2025)

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[1] Tararua Wind Power Limited lodged a substantive application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) on 6th November 2025. The application relates to the construction and operation of approximately 44 additional wind turbines and connect and supply electricity to the national grid.

[2] The application seeks approvals including:

- (a) Resource Management Act approvals under section 42(4)(a) & 42(4)(b);
- (b) A wildlife approval under section 42(4)(h); and
- (c) An archaeological authority under section 42(4)(i).

[3] Pursuant to section 51 of the Act, the panel convener directs the EPA to obtain the following reports:

*From the Director-General of Conservation -*

- (a) A report under clause 3 of Schedule 7 for the wildlife approval (s42(4)(h)).

*From Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and the Māori Heritage Council -*

- (b) A report prepared in accordance with clause 3 of Schedule 8 for the

archaeological authority (s42(4)(i)).

### **Advice Requested**

[4] The panel convener also directs the EPA to obtain advice from both the Department of Conservation and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga on the following:

- (a) How the weighting of matters set out in the relevant schedules should be approached, having regard to applicable statutory provisions and relevant senior court decisions (s51(1)).
- (b) If either agency does not agree with, or wishes to amplify, the expert and planning assessments lodged in support of the application, it must file a report in accordance with the relevant schedule (s51(2)(c) or s51(2)(d)).
- (c) Each agency may confirm and append advice previously given in response to directions under section 51 on another project and does not need to provide an assessment if it concurs with the applicant's assessments.
- (d) Each agency is to respond to the draft conditions, including any management plans attached to the application, recommending tracked changes (if any).

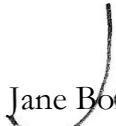
### **Timing**

[5] Reports and advice must be provided to the EPA **within 10 working days after the panel invites comments on the application**, in accordance with section 51(4) of the Act.

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

[7] Finally, it would assist the panel convener if the Director-General of

Conservation is able to indicate their views on the application at the convener's conference, tentatively scheduled for **27 January 2025**.



Jane Botham

Panel convener for the purpose of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024