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**MINUTE 4 OF THE KAIMAI HYDRO-ELECTRIC  
POWER SCHEME EXPERT PANEL**

**Additional Invitation to Comment**

**FTAA-2502-1024**

**18 December 2025**

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[1] On 17 December 2025, the Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Expert Panel issued Minute 1, inviting comment on the Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Fast-track application.

[2] On 17 December 2025, some of the changes in the Fast-track Approvals Amendment Bill took effect, including the definition of administering agency, as follows:

*“In section 4(1), definition of **administering agency**, paragraph (a), after “specified Act”, insert “(other than the chief executives of the departments that, with the authority of the Prime Minister, are responsible for the administration of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 and the Resource Management Act 1991)”.*

[3] This change applies to applications lodged on or after 17 December 2025.

[4] The application for the Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Panel was lodged on 29 September 2025, so the change does not apply. Therefore, the Ministry for the Environment should have been invited to comment on this application under section 53(2)(k).

[5] This minute therefore extends this invitation to the Ministry for the Environment. Comments must be provided to the EPA:

- (a) by email to [substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz);
- (b) by post to Private Bag 63002, Wellington 6140, New Zealand; or
- (c) in person to Stewart Dawson's Corner, 366 Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011

[6] Comments must be received by Wednesday, 4 February 2026.

[7] The application may be accessed on the Fast-track website here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/kaimai-hydro-electric-power-scheme-re-consenting/substantive-application>

If you require any further information, please contact the EPA's Application Lead, Keely Paler, at: [info@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:info@fasttrack.govt.nz).



**Gerald Lanning**

Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Expert Panel Chair