

8 June 2026

The Panel Convenor
Stella Passage Development
c/ Environmental Protection Authority
WELLINGTON

By email: substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz

STELLA PASSAGE DEVELOPMENT – FTAA-2512-1163

Introduction

1. This letter is filed on behalf of the Nga Hapu o Ngati Ranginui Settlement Trust (Settlement Trust) in response to Minute 5 from the Panel. It addresses the question raised by the Panel at paragraph [3] of Minute 5 as to whether the iwi parties agree with the position of the Applicant on the impact of the Stella Passage development on Treaty of Waitangi settlements (and specifically the Nga Hapu o Ngati Ranginui settlement). It also addresses the question of cultural impacts referred to by the Panel at paragraph [4] of Minute 5.
2. In addressing these matters the Settlement Trust acknowledges that the Applicant has not yet responded to its late comment. However, the Applicant has made submissions on the Tauranga Moana Iwi Collective Settlement. The Tauranga Moana Iwi Collective Settlement is an important part of the Nga Hapu o Ngati Ranginui Settlement and is dealt with in the Settlement Trust's late comment.
3. The Settlement Trust does not agree with the Applicant's position on Treaty of Waitangi settlements and cultural impacts. The Settlement Trust maintains the view that it has previously submitted to the Panel, which is that the grant of a fast-track consent for the Stella Passage development would be inconsistent with the terms of the settlement and therefore section 7 of the FTAA.
4. The position of the Settlement Trust was set out in the comment sent to the Panel on behalf of the Settlement Trust. Nothing in the submissions for the Applicant changes the position of the Settlement Trust.
5. The Settlement Trust does wish to have the opportunity to make more extensive submissions responding to the submissions for the Applicant. The Settlement Trust has had the opportunity to read the memorandum filed on behalf of the Ngati Ranginui Iwi Society Inc and the Ngati Ranginui Fisheries Trust. In that memorandum the Iwi Society and Fisheries Trust seek 21 days to file a response to the Applicant's Treaty settlement submissions. The Settlement Trust supports that request and believes that taking this additional time should ultimately help to expedite matters by providing the Panel with a shared response from the various Ngati Ranginui entities.

6. The Settlement Trust would also ask that it be given leave to respond to the question of cultural impacts at the same time. This is because, for the Settlement Trust, the impact on the Treaty settlement and cultural interests are related matters.

Naku noa, na

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'M' followed by a series of loops and a final horizontal stroke.

Matanuku Mahuika

Counsel for the Nga Hapu o Ngati Ranginui Settlement Trust