

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE #1 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Project overview conference
Waitaha Hydro [FTAA-2505-1069]

7 November 2025

[1] The purpose of this Minute #1 of the Expert Panel is to confirm the time and the details for an on-line briefing from the applicant.

[2] The briefing will be held on 14 November 2025 at 2pm. Participants are invited to attend in an observer capacity.

[3] The purpose of the briefing is to familiarise the Expert Panel with:

- a) the content of the application for approvals;
- b) the content and structure of proposed conditions;¹
- c) the key points of evidence (technical reports, assessments and other information) provided in support of the application;
- d) proposed site visit details;
- e) relevant legal tests and legal issues in contention; and
- f) other relevant matters.

[4] During the briefing :

- a) the Applicant has an opportunity to present a high-level overview of the application;
- b) the Expert Panel has an opportunity to ask any questions about the application - noting that by the time of the briefing panel members will
- c) have familiarised themselves with the documents.

¹ Including management plans and strategic plan, and drafting style.

[5] The Expert Panel requests that the applicant make available the appropriate experts they believe will assist in the Panel's understanding of the application in the briefing.

[6] The participants should note that, while the Expert Panel will be generally familiar with the application documents, they will not have had an opportunity to consider matters in detail. There will be further opportunities in this process for that to occur.

[7] To facilitate the overview of the application referred to in paragraph 4(a) above, it is suggested that the Applicant provides a short PowerPoint presentation to the EPA's Application Lead, June Cahill, no later than 5pm, 13 November 2025 and then speak to it at the briefing on 14 November 2025.

[8] The details for the briefing session will be provided by June Cahill and she can be contacted at: info@fastrack.govt.nz.



Vicki Morrison-Shaw
Waitaha Hydro Expert Panel Chair