

25 February 2026

The Ministry for the Environment Fast-Track Approvals Secretariat

Wellington

Tēnā koutou.

Re: SL1 Houchens Development Fast-Track Referral Application

Consultation with the Ngāti Hauā Iwi Trust is required for the SL1 Houchens Development as part of the referral application under the Fast-Track Amendment Act. To fulfil this requirement, consultation and wānanga have been undertaken with Barkers and Associates to ensure that Ngāti Hauā cultural, environmental, and social values, perspectives, and interests are appropriately recognised and embedded within project planning and decision-making.

Ngāti Hauā is a member of the Tainui confederation and is connected through Te Whakakitenga o Waikato Inc. This wider tribal framework affirms Treaty obligations and environmental protections that support iwi and hapū aspirations and uphold mana motuhake. As kaitiaki, Ngāti Hauā carries a responsibility to protect cultural and environmental interests and to safeguard our whakapapa and heritage for future generations.

The SL1 Houchens development presents several matters that require ongoing attention, particularly in relation to soil conditions, three waters management, and associated cultural and environmental considerations. Ngāti Hauā will continue to work through these matters to ensure that Te Ture Whaimana and its principles of Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, and Tai Ao, together with the Ngāti Hauā Environmental Management Plan Te Rautaki Tāmata Ao Tūroa o Ngāti Hauā, are upheld.

The project must also give full effect to the obligations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

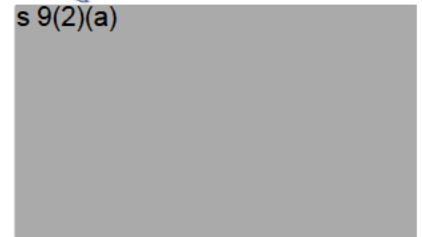
Ngāti Hauā supports the lodgement of the application for referral under the Fast-Track Amendment Act. We expect ongoing, meaningful engagement following lodgement to ensure that our cultural values, environmental interests, and kaitiaki responsibilities continue to be respected throughout all stages of the project, including detailed design and implementation.

Ngāti Hauā acknowledges and supports the purpose of the current Memorandum of Understanding prepared for SL1 and iwi. Ngāti Hauā reserves the right to confirm our own arrangements and may decide to establish a separate Memorandum of Understanding to formalise engagement and commitments as the project advances through the next stages of the substantive application.

This will ensure that mana motuhake is upheld, while respecting our whakapapa relationships amongst us iwi.



s 9(2)(a)



Tiakina te taiao, he tāonga tuku iho.

s 9(2)(a)



POU Taiao - Ngāti Hauā Iwi Trust

