

Panel Draft Conditions

CRC262540 – Section 14 Consent to take and use water for hydroelectricity generation (Operation of Lake Pūkaki below 518 m)

Meridian Energy: Response to draft conditions and comments

Note: In the table below, the Condition column, shows the Panel's draft condition with Meridian's proposed changes in tracked changes. The Comment column provides Meridian's supporting comments in relation to Meridian's proposed changes and Meridian's responses to changes sought by other commenting parties.

The Department of Conservation's proposed new conditions have been added at the end of the table and are shown in red.

Condition	Comment
Scope Note: This consent authorises the taking and using of water in Lake Pūkaki from between 518.0 m RL and 513 m RL for hydroelectricity generation purposes. This consent is in addition to consents CRC905321.7240441 and CRC185833 held by the consent holder, which also allow it to 'operate' Lake Pūkaki between a Maximum Consented Storage Level of 532.548.0 m RL and a Normal Consented Minimum Lake Level of 513.8 m RL and an Alert Minimum Control Level (Security Supply Alert) of 515.0 m RL. It is also in addition to the consent holder's ability to 'operate Lake Pūkaki below 518 down to 513.0 m RL as a permitted activity	<u>Canterbury Regional Council</u> CRC has suggested minor amendments to the scope description. <u>Genesis</u> GEL has requested minor amendments to the scope description. <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian has updated the scope to reflect the recent granting of the Waitaki Power Scheme consents. Meridian considers that these edits address the minor amendments sought by CRC and Genesis.

under Table 4 and Rule 17 of the Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan.	
General Conditions	
1. This consent will expire on 1 September<u>31 December</u> 2028 unless surrendered or cancelled at an earlier date.	<u>Canterbury Regional Council</u> CRC have noted in their comments that an expiry date of 1 September may result in this consent not being able to be utilised during winter 2028. <u>Genesis</u> Genesis supports the expiry date of 1 September 2028.¹ <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian agrees with CRC and requests an amendment to this condition to reflect an expiry date of <u>31 December 2028</u>, as detailed in the Substantive Application. Please refer to the attached evidence of Amy Callaghan, Rory Blundell and Legal Submissions from Stephen Christensen which note: • The application is clear in seeking consent to the end of 2028 and Meridian's modelling and assessment applies over this longer period to 31 December 2028. There is no scope issue with a 31 December 2028 expiry date. • An expiry date on 1 September 2028 will mean the consent cannot be exercised during winter 2028. Because future hydrology is inherently uncertain, if the lake level was below 518 m RL in the months prior to 1 September 2028, Meridian operators could not be certain that lake levels would be able to recover back above 518 m RL by 1 September. This would create a non-compliance risk. • If Meridian cannot rely on the consent in 2028, the full economic and environmental benefits outlined in the Substantive Application would not be realised.

¹ 06 Genesis Energy Limited comments on draft conditions, paragraph 11, 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell page 2

	In the absence of some adverse effect that a shorter duration would avoid or manage (of which Meridian is unaware) the proposed condition is more onerous than necessary (s83 of the FTAA).
2. At any time the consent holder is exercising this consent it shall also comply with all conditions of CRC240441905321.7 and CRC185133, with the exception of conditions relating to minimum lake level.	<u>Canterbury Regional Council</u> CRC suggested minor amendments to this condition. <u>Genesis</u> - GEL has requested a condition that authorises lowering Lake Pukaki during the months of June, July, August 2026, 2027 or 2028; or - When it is necessary to undertake the repair, remediation or maintenance works associated with the Tekapo tailrace as prescribed in conditions 14-27.² <u>Meridian Response</u> In response to CRC's comments, Meridian has updated the condition to reflect the recent approval of the Waitaki Power Scheme Resource Consents. In response to Genesis's requested conditions, Meridian <u>strongly opposes</u> these conditions as detailed in the attached evidence of Rory Blundell, Legal Submissions from Stephen Christensen and in relation to the Tekapo B tailrace works, refer to the attached Damwatch memo from Dr Grant Webby and Viculp Lal.
3. The consent holder must advise Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance), Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, and Te Rūnanga o Waihao, Transpower New Zealand Limited and Genesis Energy Limited when lake levels reach 519.0 m RL (i.e.	<u>Transpower</u> Transpower have requested they be notified when lake levels reach 519 m RL. <u>Genesis</u> GEL requested they be notified when lake levels reach 519 m RL and that notification should occur at least 15 working days in advance of any individual lower event.³

² 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell page 2

³ 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell page 2

before Lake Pūkaki is reduced below the Minimum Lake Level of 518.0 m RL provided for in CRC905321.7.	<u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian agrees to notify Transpower and Genesis when lake levels get to 519 m RL. Meridian does not support GEL's proposed requirement for 15 working days' notice of lake lowering events. Lake levels are not managed through planned lowering events and are instead driven by generation outflows, inflows (including the TKB contribution), and rainfall. As such, forecasting lake levels with 15 working days' certainty is neither practical nor achievable, and Meridian does not intend to undertake <u>planned</u> lake lowering events, including for the completion of works.
4. Whenever the level of Lake Pūkaki is below 518 m RL pursuant to the exercise of this consent, the consent holder must advise Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance), Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, and Te Rūnanga o Waihao weekly of: a. the strategies adopted to restore Lake Pūkaki to the Normal Consented Minimum Lake Level of 518 m RL; and b. the lake level at the end of each reporting week; c. the estimated timeframe for returning Lake Pūkaki to the Normal Consented Minimum Lake Level; and d. the measures adopted to mitigate adverse effects of operating the lake below the Normal Consented Minimum Lake Level, including effects on cultural values and mahinga kai.	<u>Transpower</u> Transpower have requested they be added to this condition. <u>Genesis</u> Genesis have requested they be added to this condition⁴ <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian does not support Transpower's and GEL's proposed amendment. This condition was developed in consultation with Environment Canterbury and Kā Rūnaka to manage potential environmental and cultural effects, which are outside Transpower's remit and GEL's legitimate interests. In addition, Transpower and GEL do not have a role in overseeing how the lake range is utilised. Meridian is working with Transpower outside the Fast-track process on information sharing and security.
5. The lake level measurement and reporting under this consent shall be the same as is required under the main	

⁴ 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell page 2

operating consent {can we have a reference please?CRC240441}.	
6. Every time the consent holder exercises this consent to operate Lake Pūkaki below 518 m RL, the consent holder must, no later than eight weeks following the completion of each lowering event, provide Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance), Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, and Te Rūnanga o Waihao with the following information: a. the date and time at which the lake was lowered below 518 m RL; b. the levels at which the Lake Pūkaki was managed over the duration of the lowering event; c. the duration of the lowering event; d. a written description of the circumstances leading to and applying during the lowering event; and e. a written description of the measures adopted to mitigate adverse effects of operating the lake below the Normal Consented Minimum Lake Level, including effects on cultural values and mahinga kai.	<u>Transpower</u> Transpower have requested they be added to this condition. <u>Genesis</u> Genesis have requested they be added to this condition and have suggested a new condition 6d 5 <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian does not support Transpower's and GEL's proposed amendments. This condition was developed in consultation with Environment Canterbury and Kā Rūnaka to manage potential environmental and cultural effects, which fall outside Transpower's remit and GEL's legitimate interests. In addition, Transpower and Genesis do not have a role overseeing or evaluating how the lake range has been utilised. Meridian and Genesis are competitors in the electricity industry and it is likely that providing Meridian's information about the circumstances leading up to consent utilisation and measures to mitigate effects of lake levels, will involve information about hydro utilisation and other contracts and decisions related to the electricity market. It would not be appropriate to include Genesis in this condition. Meridian is working with Transpower outside the Fast-track process on information sharing and security. Furthermore, in response to GEL's suggested condition 6.d, Meridian considers this is adequately addressed by conditions 15-27, in particular, condition 20. e.
7. If the information provided in condition 5 indicates that the timing, duration, frequency and extent of any lowering operation is different to what was predicted in application FTAA-2510-1120, then the consent holder shall provide a detailed explanation of the differences and the	<u>Transpower</u> Transpower have requested they be added to this condition. <u>Meridian Response</u>

⁵ 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell pages 2 and 3

circumstances of their occurrence to the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) within 3 months of the lowering event.	Meridian does not support Transpower's proposed amendment. This condition was developed in consultation with Environment Canterbury and Kā Rūnaka to manage potential environmental and cultural effects, which fall outside Transpower's remit. Meridian is working with Transpower outside the Fast-track process on information sharing and security.
KAKI MONITORING	
8. The consent holder shall notify the Department of Conservation when the lake water level is forecast to drop below 518 m RL and request them to undertake Kaki monitoring in accordance with the agreement between the Department of Conservation and the consent holder dated 30th August 2012. The results of any monitoring shall be provided to the Canterbury Regional Council.	
ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT	
9. Before the first exercise of this consent, the Consent Holder must engage a Suitably Qualified and Experienced Person to prepare an overarching Wetland Ecological Management Plan (WEMP) for the Tasman Delta in accordance with Condition 10 to 12. The WEMP shall be provided to the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) immediately upon completion.	<u>Canterbury Regional Council</u> CRC have suggested minor amendments to this condition. <u>Department of Conservation</u> DOC have suggested minor amendments to this condition, some of which already align with those sought by CRC. <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian supports the amendments suggested by CRC and DOC and has tracked them in Column 1. In addition, Meridian has amended this condition to make it clear that the WEMP only applies to the Tasman Delta. Based on the Evidence in Response to Comments provided by Matt Dodson (Dated 15 April 2028), the only wetland connected to the lake below 518 m RL, is the Tasman

	Delta. Furthermore, turf communities along the eastern shore are well within the main range of lake levels upon which effects have been assessed in the context of the reconsenting of the Waitaki Power Scheme. These consents have now been granted. Please refer to the attached legal submissions from Stephen Christensen.
10. The objectives of the WEMP are to: - Detail the ecological management programme that will be implemented to avoid, remedy, or mitigate the impacts on the Tasman Delta wetland ecological values when the lake water level is forecast to drop below 518 m RL; - Document the management measures that will be adopted by the Consent Holder, including the restoration, management and maintenance of the Tasman Delta wetland ecological features and values; and - Ensure that any long-term effects are appropriately managed through monitoring, adaptive management where appropriate, and implementation of appropriate responses.	<u>Department of Conservation</u> DOC have sought extensive amendments to this condition including specific references to eastern lakeshore turfs and other wetlands. ⁶ <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian has amended this condition to make it clear that the WEMP only applies to the Tasman Delta. Meridian opposes the changes sought by DOC. Based on the Evidence in Response to Comments provided by Matt Dodson (Dated 15 April 2028), the only wetland connected to the lake below 518 m RL, is the Tasman Delta. Furthermore, turf communities along the eastern shore are well within the main range of lake levels upon which effects have been assessed in the context of the reconsenting of the Waitaki Power Scheme. These consents have now been granted. Given the consent's very short duration, and the modelled limited duration and extent of lake levels below 518 m RL, Meridian considers this condition should remain broad enough to allow flexibility in developing and implementing a workable WEMP.
11. The WEMP must outline procedures to address the effects of lowering the lake below 518 m RL on the Tasman Delta wetland ecological values, including measures to:	<u>Department of Conservation</u> DOC have sought extensive amendments to this condition including specific references to eastern lakeshore turfs and other wetlands and a requirement to include management measures including management of lake levels to restore ecological features and values. ⁷ <u>Meridian Response</u>

⁶ DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Page 14

⁷ DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Pages 14 and 15

a. avoid where practicable, or otherwise minimise, adverse effects on ecological and biodiversity values; and b. achieve the purposes and their expected ecological outcomes.	Meridian has amended this condition to make it clear that the WEMP only applies to the Tasman Delta. Please refer to Meridian's response above to Condition 10. Given the consent's short duration, and the modelled limited duration and extent of lake levels below 518 m RL, Meridian considers this condition should remain broad enough to allow flexibility in developing and implementing the WEMP. Meridian opposes DOC's proposed amendments and in particular, considers aspects relating to the management of lake levels within the main operating range to be beyond the scope of the proposal and entirely inappropriate as discussed in the attached legal submissions from Stephen Christensen.
12. The WEMP must be prepared in consultation with the Department of Conservation, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, Te Rūnanga o Waihao and Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, with at least 15 working days allowed for these parties to provide comments on a full draft of the WEMP prior to submission to the Council.	<u>Department of Conservation</u> DOC have sought amendments to ensure that stakeholders have sufficient time to provide comment. ⁸ <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian supports the change sought by DOC, in so far as they are happy to provide stakeholders sufficient time to provide comment on the plan, however Meridian does not support the inclusion of the word 'Certification'. As discussed further below in relation to the new proposed conditions from DOC, Certification is not considered necessary and has not been sought by CRC.
GABION ROCK WALL INSPECTIONS	
13. The consent holder shall inspect the nature of rip-rap adjacent to the gabion rock wall located at SH80 Mount Cook Road (SH 80 RS 17 RP 12.64 – 12.7). Inspections shall be undertaken weekly at any time Lake Pūkaki falls below 518m RL. Where any erosion of the rip-rap is observed, the consent holder shall be responsible for	

⁸ DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Page 16

rectifying the situation. The consent holder shall provide a record of inspections, findings and how any erosion was rectified within 8 weeks of Lake Pūkaki returning to 518m RL.	
TEKAPO B POWER STATION AND TEMPORARY TAILRACE STRUCTURE	
14. Unless the consent holder <u>provides the</u> satisfies the Canterbury Regional Council <u>with the written agreement of Genesis that Conditions 15-27 do not need to be complied with that Genesis Energy Limited does not require the consent holder to satisfy conditions 15 to 27,</u> then <u>the consent holder must comply with</u> Conditions 15 to 27 must be complied with prior to the first exercise of this consent. Advice note: <i>The Tekapo B power station and temporary tailrace structure is situated on land owned by Genesis Energy Limited ('Genesis') and not the consent holder. However, GEL has undertaken to the Expert Consenting Panel considering FTAA-2510-1120 that it will allow the consent holder access to its land for the purposes of implementing conditions 15 to 27. The Expert Consenting Panel has relied on this undertaking in imposing conditions 15 to 27. But the Expert Consenting Panel is also aware that the consent holder and GEL may, after the issue of this consent, conclude a 'side' agreement that provides alternative methods to manage potential risks from the exercise of this consent on the Tekapo B power station and temporary tailrace structure. In that event, conditions 15 to 27 may become unnecessary. The purpose of this condition is to excuse compliance with those conditions if GEL and the consent holder</i>	<u>Canterbury Regional Council</u> CRC have made the observation that there are provisions within conditions 15-27 that would need to occur after the first exercise of the consent. <u>Genesis</u> Genesis have suggested amendments to condition 14 to require the written agreement of Genesis that conditions 15-27 do not need to be complied with. In relation to the Advice note, Genesis have suggested inserting reference to the matters set out in paragraph 5 of its response to request for further information.⁹ <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian agrees with the CRC that there are works required at the Tekapo B tailrace by subsequent conditions that would need to occur after the first exercise of the consent. Please refer to the attached Damwatch Memo from Dr Grant Webby and Viculp Lal and the evidence of Rory Blundell. Meridian supports Genesis's amendments to the wording of condition 14, as tracked. Meridian opposes Genesis's amendments to the advice note to include reference to an extraneous document being: paragraph 5 of its response to request for information dated 15 May 2026. The advice note is otherwise clear without that wording. Conditions 14 – 27 have been updated to remove the word 'temporary' from in front of 'tailrace'.

⁹ 06 Genesis Energy Limited comments on draft conditions, paragraph 11, 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell page 2, and 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell pages 3 and 4.

<i>reach an alternative option that manages the potential risks after the issue of this consent.</i>	The original statement about the tailrace being “temporary” came during design, before construction was completed. The continued use of the term “temporary” to describe the Tekapo B tailrace weir is not supported by either its demonstrated performance or its current engineering assessment and should therefore be removed. While the structure was originally conceived for temporary use during initial scheme development, the evidence shows that it has functioned as a durable and enduring hydraulic asset. Following construction, the weir and chute operated successfully under full hydraulic loading for an extended period, after which the structure remained submerged for more than 47 years with no evidence of significant deterioration. Condition assessment findings confirm that both the concrete elements and riprap lining remain largely intact, with no meaningful settlement, structural distress, or loss of function observed
15. Within 20 working days of commencement of this consent, the consent holder must, after consultation with Genesis, identify and provide to Genesis a list of at least three independent persons experienced in the design and construction of hydraulic structures (“Suitably Qualified and Experienced Practitioners” or “SQEP”) that the consent holder considers are appropriate to undertake the requirements contained in Conditions 19 to 25 of this consent.	
16. Provided that Genesis confirms a preferred SQEP from the list within 5 working days, the consent holder must appoint the SQEP selected by Genesis.	
17. If Genesis does not select a SQEP within 5 working days, the consent holder must appoint a SQEP from the list and, within a further 5 working days, inform Genesis who the appointed SQEP is.	
18. The consent holder may, as necessary in the circumstances, replace the appointed SQEP with another SQEP, provided that the process set out in Conditions 15, 16 and 17 is repeated.	

19. Prior to the first lowering of Lake Pūkaki below 518.0 m RL in accordance with this consent, and following consultation with Genesis, the consent holder must have engaged the SQEP to prepare a Repair Strategy and Associated Works Programme for the Tekapo Temporary Tailrace, the purpose of which is to set out the procedures to be followed and physical works implemented to ensure that any lake level lowering authorised by this consent will not adversely affect the Tekapo Temporary Tailrace or the operation of the Tekapo B Power Station. The SQEP may commission further investigations or reports at the consent holder's expense, that the SQEP considers reasonably necessary to inform the nature and extent of work included in the Repair Strategy and Associated Works Programme.	<u>Genesis</u> GEL has suggested inserting reference to Condition 2 (which refers to GEL's suggested condition restricting the operation of the consent to June, July and August in 2026, 2027 and 2028). ¹⁰ <u>Meridian Response</u> As previously noted, Meridian strongly opposes condition 2 as suggested by GEL as it would make the consent unworkable and therefore does not support the reference to condition 2 in condition 19. Meridian has amendment this condition to include the ability of the SQEP to commission further investigations or reports. Please refer to the attached Damwatch memo from Dr Grant Webby and Viculp Lal.
20. The Repair Strategy and Associated Works Programme must be prepared by the SQEP following consultation with Genesis and Meridian, and, as a minimum: a. Incorporateconsideration should be given to all recommendations contained within the WSP memorandum 'Tekapo B Power Station Submerged Weir – Damwatch Document Reviews' dated 26 March 2026 and the WSP report 'Tekapo Submerged Weir Structural Condition Assessment' dated 25 March 2026, including but not limited to: i. reinstatement of any damaged areas of the rock lining of the chutedisplaced rip-rap;	<u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian has suggested minor edits aimed to assist the SQEP based on the attached Damwatch memo from Dr Grant Webby and Viculp Lal, the evidence of Rory Blundell and legal submissions from Stephen Christensen.

¹⁰ [06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell page 5](#)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">ii. repair of concrete defects;iii. treatment of exposed reinforcement;iv. <u>if the structural integrity is found to be compromised</u>, installation of new steel dowels to provide a positive and reliable connection between the concrete cap and base;v. investigation of unusual sill beam survey results and potential cracking; andvi. removal of silt and vegetation <u>for</u> detailed inspection and concrete testing; <ul style="list-style-type: none">b. incorporate any additional requirements <u>identified considered necessary</u> by the SQEP <u>in order to</u> satisfy Condition 19;c. provide timeframes for the works required by (i) and (ii) above to be completed;d. identify the approvals and resource consents (if any) required to be obtained by the consent holder in order to implement the Repair Strategy and Associated Works Programme;e. set out the post construction monitoring and management measures required to ensure that the lowering the lake level below 518.0 m RL does not adversely affect the Tekapo <u>Temporary</u> Tailrace or the operation of the Tekapo B Power Station;f. be certified by the SQEP as satisfying the requirements of this Condition 20; andg. be provided to Genesis and the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) immediately on completion. | |
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21.The Repair Strategy and Associated Works Programme may be amended from time to time, provided that: - Genesis has been consulted regarding the details of any amendment; and - any amendment has been certified by the SQEP, and a copy provided to Genesis and the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance), prior to any amendment being implemented.	
22.The Consent Holder must ensure that: - the works identified in the Repair Strategy and Associated Works Programme are completed in accordance with the Repair Strategy and Associated Works Programme and certified by the SQEP as soon as is practicable and, unless recommended otherwise by the SQEP, no later than 12 months following the commencement of this consent and before during the first and any subsequent any lowering of Lake Pūkaki below 518.0 m RL under this consent; and - Genesis and Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) have been provided written confirmation that the requirements of Condition 22(a) above have been satisfied.	<u>Canterbury Regional Council</u> CRC notes that the practicalities of undertaking any works prior to the lake being lowered should be considered. <u>Meridian Response</u> Completion within 12 months is unlikely given the currently elevated lake levels. The works specified in Condition 20 generally require exposure of both the weir and ribs, which would necessitate lowering the lake level to well below 518.0 m RL and maintaining it at that reduced level for the duration of the works. Meridian strongly oppose being forced to lower the lake unnecessary in the first 12 months in order to undertake the works required in the Repair Strategy. Please refer to the attached Damwatch memo from Dr Grant Webby and Viculp Lal, evidence of Rory Blundell and legal submissions from Stephen Christensen. Please also refer to the WSP report, Section 3.2.2 OPTION 2-SUBMERGED REPAIRS, states- "Therefore, while minor superficial repairs to concrete elements could be carried out whilst submerged, any more significant operations would require a lowered water level."
23.Whenever the level of Lake Pūkaki is below 518.0 m RL in accordance with this consent, the consent holder must ensure that a minimum Tail Water Level ("TWL") of	<u>Genesis</u>

518.0 m RL is maintained between the Tekapo B Power Station and the Tekapo Temporary-Tailrace at all times <u>when Tekapo B is operating and water is flowing through the station</u>, as measured at the Tekapo B Power Station or an alternative suitable location certified by the SQEP and confirmed in writing to Genesis and Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance).	GEL has suggested inserting cross-reference to their proposed version of Condition 2. ¹¹ <u>Meridian Response</u> As previously noted, Meridian strongly opposes condition 2 suggested by GEL and therefore does not support the reference to condition 2 in condition 23. The weir crest is at RL 517.85 m RL, which is effectively the lowest achievable tailwater level. In correspondence with Genesis, Meridian have described the design intent of the tailrace as maintaining a tailwater level of RL 518.0 m when <u>Tekapo B is operating and water is flowing through the station</u>. These changes are tracked in Column 1.
24. Monitoring results collected in accordance with Condition 20(e) must be provided to the SQEP, who must be instructed by the consent holder to assess if ongoing operation of the Tekapo Temporary-Tailrace will ensure Condition 19 of this consent is able to be satisfied. A copy of that assessment must be provided to Genesis and Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) immediately on completion.	
25. Should the SQEP advise that ongoing operation of the Tekapo Temporary-Tailrace will not satisfy the requirements of Condition 19, the SQEP must be instructed by the consent holder to determine what intervention is necessary, including timeframes for such intervention to ensure that Condition 15 of this consent will be satisfied. A copy of that assessment must be provided to Genesis and Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) immediately on completion. For the purposes of this condition, intervention includes, but is not limited to, modifications or repairs to the Tekapo	<u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian is unsure if Condition 15 is the correct reference, is it meant to be Condition 19?

¹¹ 06a Genesis Energy Limited Appendix One Statement of expert evidence Phil Mitchell page 5.

Temporary Tailrace and environs, and/or additional monitoring, and/or changes in operation of the Waitaki Power Scheme, and/or promptly restoring the level of Lake Pūkaki to 518.0 m RL.	
26. The consent holder must promptly implement the intervention measures identified by the SQEP in accordance with Condition 25, and Genesis and the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) must be advised, in writing, immediately on completion.	
27. Genesis must be notified immediately, and no later than 24 hours afterwards, of any monitoring or assessment indicating that the required TWL in Condition 23 is not, or may not be, maintained.	
DUST	
28. The consent holder shall prepare and implement a communication plan to advise landowners adjoining Lake Pūkaki of potential increases in dust when the lake is expected to drop below 518 m RL. The communication plan shall include details of which landowners will be contacted and the required mechanism for contacting them.	
29. A record of all complaints relating to dust discharged from the margins or exposed bed of Lake Pūkaki must be maintained and shall include:	

a. The location where the dust was detected by the complainant; b. The date and time when the dust was detected; c. A description of the wind speed and wind direction when the dust was detected by the complainant; d. The most likely cause of the dust detected; and e. Any corrective actions undertaken by the Consent Holder to avoid, remedy, or mitigate the effects of the dust detected by the complainant. The complaints record shall be provided to the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Compliance Manager) on request.	
REVIEW	
30. The Canterbury Regional Council may, once per year, on any of the last five working days of May or November, serve notice of its intention to review the conditions of this consent for the purposes of: a. Dealing with an adverse effect on the environment occurring as a result of the exercise of this resource consent; or b. Requiring best practicable options to be adopted by the consent holder to remove or reduce any adverse effect on the environment as a result of the exercise of this resource consent; or	

c. Requiring the consent holder to carry out monitoring and reporting instead of, or in addition to, that required by the resource consent; or d. Requiring the consent holder to comply with a relevant rule in an operative regional plan.	
New conditions from DOC¹²	
1. The main operating range, within which the consent holder must endeavour to maintain continuous variation, is 525.0 m RL to 531.0 m RL. 2. The consent holder must endeavour to achieve an annual mean level within the main operating range. 3. Lake levels may only be drawn below 518.0 m RL for a maximum of 39 consecutive calendar days. 4. There must be a minimum interval of 240 calendar days between each drawdown below 518m	<u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian <u>strongly opposes</u> the proposed condition from DOC. These conditions are more onerous than necessary (s83 FTAA), operationally unworkable and are completely at odds with the intent of the Fast-track substantive application, and with the recently confirmed operating conditions for Lake Pūkaki. The proposed condition conflicts with existing resource consents held by Meridian for the operation of Lake Pūkaki. Please refer to the attached evidence of Rory Blundell and Legal Submissions from Stephen Christensen.
The consent holder must establish a baseline surveying and monitoring regime for lake margin turf wetlands as follows: a. In the first period of low lake levels (525.4m or below) after the commencement of the consent: i. A comprehensive survey to map lake margin turf wetlands along the eastern shoreline of Lake Pūkaki must be undertaken, including measurement of the current lower and upper levels of each wetland, and	<u>Meridian Response</u> As above, Meridian <u>strongly opposes</u> the proposed condition from DOC. These conditions are out of scope of Meridian's Application, more onerous than necessary (s83 FTAA), particularly considering the Response to Comments Evidence provided by both Mr Dobson and Mr Heggie Grace. Neither the Ecological Impact Assessment prepared as part of this application, nor the earlier report prepared as part of PC1 identified potential effects on turf communities at the proposed lower lake levels that warranted surveys or monitoring. Furthermore, the hydrological analysis confirmed a lack of hydrological connection to the areas identified by DOC at levels below those already consented as part of the main operating range. On this basis, there is no justification for

¹² DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Pages 10, 11, 12 and 16

ii. Quantitative baseline measurement of the turf communities present at the Tasman River Delta, of the eastern shoreline lake margin turf wetlands, and of a representative subset of at least six of the 16 other wetlands identified in the Lake Pūkaki Fast-track Consent Substantive Application Ecological Impact Assessment (October 2025) prepared by Tonkin and Taylor Ltd for Meridian Energy Limited (section 4.2.1). b. Quantitative measurement of the wetland communities referred to in clause a.ii above must then be repeated after two years (and every two years thereafter, if the consent is extended beyond three years).	baseline surveying or monitoring and any conditions to this effect would be more onerous than necessary. The proposed condition conflicts with existing resource consents held by Meridian for the operation of Lake Pūkaki.
The following process applies to certification of the WEMP: a. The Consent Holder shall provide the management plan to the Canterbury Regional Council for certification that it: i. sets out actions and procedures that will achieve the objectives of the management plan, and ii. contains the information required to be included in the management plan by consent conditions. b. Canterbury Regional Council may take such advice from suitably qualified persons, as it considers necessary to satisfy itself that the management plan submitted for certification achieves the requirements of the relevant conditions. c. If the Council considers that the management plan achieves the requirements of relevant conditions, it shall notify the Consent Holder accordingly, and the Consent Holder may commence activities consistent with the management plan	<u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian opposes the inclusion of this condition. Specifically, Meridian note that a certification requirement has not been sought by CRC in their role as regulator. Rather CRC has suggested amendments to Condition 9 to require a copy of the WEMP to be provided to them effectively for monitoring purposes. Given the required content of the WEMP, certification is not considered necessary.

~~on receipt of written confirmation (certification) from the Council:~~

~~d. If the Consent Holder received written notice from the Council that certification of the management plan will not be provided the Consent Holder may re-submit the plan following review of the Council's reasons and with any necessary amendments, and request certification again in accordance with clauses a to c above.~~

Panel Draft Conditions

CRC262541 – Section 15 Consent to discharge contaminants to land or water

Meridian Energy: Response to draft conditions and comments

Condition	Comments
Scope Note: This consent authorises the discharge of contaminants (including sediment-laden water, dust deposition, and incidental hydrocarbon discharges) to land and water arising from dam protection works at Lake Pūkaki between 510.5 and 518.0 m RL associated with the Lake Pūkaki Hydro Storage and Dam Resilience Works P project.	<u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian suggests removing reference to 'hydro storage'. The consent only relates to the Dam Resilience Works and the consent relating to hydro storage will expire in 2028.
General Conditions	
1. All discharges to land and water authorised by this consent shall be located at Lake Pūkaki within the area identified as 'works area' on Plan CRC262541 at or about map reference NZTM 1371515E, 5103020N	
2. Construction sequencing and staging shall occur in general accordance with Section 9.6 of the Rip-rap design and construction methodology report included with application FTAA-2510-1120. Specifically, it shall be as follows: a. Tranche 1 – Main Dam (rip-rap placement 518.6 m RL to 514.5 m RL). Establish a key toe at 513.0 m RL b. Tranche 1 – left and right abutment (rip-rap placement 517.0 m RL to 513.0 m RL)	

c. Tranche 2 – Main Dam (rip-rap placement 513.0 m RL to 510.5 m RL) d. Tranche 2 – Abutments (rip-rap placement 513.0 m RL to 510.5 m RL)	
3. All practicable measures shall be undertaken to prevent oil and fuel leaks from vehicles and machinery including but not limited to: a. There shall be no storage of fuel or refuelling of vehicles and machinery within 20 metres of flowing water or water bodies. b. Fuel shall be stored securely or removed from the site overnight. c. The pump shall be attended at all times during refuelling. d. Drip trays shall be used at all times during refuelling. e. A spill response kit shall be kept on site at all times.	
EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN	
4. The Canterbury Regional Council shall be notified at least ten working days: a. prior to commencement of works; and b. prior to the re-commencement of works, where works have been discontinued for more than 8 days. c. Notification shall include: d. Consent number. e. Proposed start and end dates. f. Name, address and contact telephone number of the person supervising the works.	
5. Before discharging, the consent holder shall provide a copy of this consent to staff and contractors undertaking the	

activities authorised by this consent and explain to them how to comply with the conditions.	
6. Prior to the first exercise of this consent, the consent holder shall establish and maintain an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan ('ESCP') in accordance with the Canterbury Regional Council Erosion & Sediment Control Toolbox for Canterbury. The objective of the ESCP is to set out the measures to be implemented during construction to minimise as far as reasonably practicable the erosion and the discharge of sediment and other contaminants into Lake Pūkaki and the Pūkaki Riverbed.	
7. The ESCP shall include the following information as appropriate to the scale, location and type of earthworks: a. contour information b. erosion and sediment controls including specific design location, dimensions and capacity c. details of measures to control sediment runoff, dust and the removal of soil, debris and other materials from public roads or places. d. catchment boundaries for the sediment controls e. discharge locations for each catchment/sediment control device f. details of measures for managing any contaminated land g. details of construction methods to be employed including timing and duration h. identification of the suitably qualified persons to manage the erosion and sediment controls i. maintenance requirements j. reinstatement provisions	

k. Provision for monitoring of any discharges including triggers that may warrant further management responses l. practicable measures to be undertaken to prevent the spill of fuel, hydraulic fluid, or other potential liquid contaminants, including but not limited to requirements that: i. No fuel may be stored, or vehicles or machinery refuelled within 20 metres of the lake or flowing water. ii. Fuel, hydraulic fluid and other potential liquid contaminants shall be stored securely or removed from site overnight. Advice Note: The Canterbury Regional Council Erosion & Sediment Control Toolbox for Canterbury can be found at http://esccanterbury.co.nz/	
8. Before first exercise of this consent, the consent holder must provide a copy of their proposed ESCP to the Canterbury Regional Council (attention: Manager Compliance) for confirmation that it complies with the conditions of this consent (the 'Approved ECSP'). If no response from Canterbury Regional Council is provided within 20 working days of submitting the plan for certification the consent holder shall proceed as if the plan has been approved.	
9. The ESCP may be amended and changed by the consent holder provided such amendments are consistent with the objective of minimising any effects of sediment or construction on the lake environment. An amended ESCP shall be submitted to Canterbury Regional Council (attention: Manager	

Compliance) for confirmation that it complies with the conditions of this consent.	
10. The consent holder may implement any amended ESCP after 20 working days of it being submitted for certification if Canterbury Regional council has not notified the consent holder of its decision. If Canterbury Regional Council notifies the consent holder that the amended ESCP does not comply with the conditions of this consent the consent holder shall immediately revert (within 5 working days) to implementing the Approved ESCP.	
11. When discharging in and adjacent to water, the consent holder shall, in accordance with the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP), ensure that sediment losses to natural water are minimised where practicable and that silt control measures are in place.	
12. During the period of the discharges, erosion and sediment controls shall be implemented to mitigate sedimentation effects associated with the construction of the rock armouring in accordance with the ESCP approved as the part of the grant of this consent.	
TEMPORARY REINSTATEMENT OF THE SITE	
13. In the event the lake is forecast to rise above the works level, and works remain incomplete, the consent holder shall ensure that work areas within the predicted area of inundation are rehabilitated to minimise any loss of material.	
FINAL REINSTATEMENT OF THE SITE	
14. Within 14 days of the final completion of rock armouring activities at the site:	<u>Department of Conservation</u> DOC has suggested amendments to 'd'. ¹Amendments include the replanting of any

¹ DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application, page 8

a. All temporary deposits of gravel, sand and other natural material (including reject material) shall be levelled to the natural ground level or removed from site. b. All created access ramps will be removed, and the area shall be reshaped and formed to a state consistent with the surrounding dam. c. Any temporary structures and construction materials shall be removed. d. Re-grassing of any remaining areas of bare ground to match the surrounding existing land. e. Rock stockpile areas may be retained for other necessary maintenance works associated with other aspects of the Lake Pūkaki and related engineering structures.	remaining areas of bare ground including the re-planting of indigenous plant species. <u>Meridian Response</u> Meridian does not support DOC's proposed amendments and considers the current wording, as agreed with ECan, sufficient to address final remediation. The proposed disturbance areas are located on Meridian-owned land and are key to the ongoing operational of a nationally significant hydroelectric site. Re-grassing is considered appropriate in this context. It is also noted that vegetation growth on or near the dam is discouraged, as it can create dam safety issues.
15. In the event that any contaminated soil or material is uncovered by the works that has not been already identified, a contamination discovery protocol must be implemented, including but not limited to the following steps: a. Earthworks within ten metres of discovered contaminant soil or material must cease immediately; b. All practicable steps must be taken to prevent the contaminated material becoming entrained in stormwater. Immediate steps must include, where practicable: i. Diverting any stormwater runoff from surrounding areas away from the contaminated material; and ii. Minimising the exposure of the	

contaminated material, including covering the contaminants with an impervious cover; c. Notification of the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Contaminated Sites Manager), within 24 hours of the discovery; d. Earthworks within ten metres of discovered contaminant soil or material must not recommence until a suitably qualified and experienced contaminated land practitioner (SQEP) confirms to Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Compliance Manager), that continuing works does not represent a significant risk to the environment; e. All records and documentation associated with the discovery must be kept and copies must be provided to the Canterbury Regional Council upon request.	
16. Any material removed from the site during the works that is potentially or confirmed as contaminated, must be disposed of at a facility authorised to receive such material.	
17. The Canterbury Regional Council may, once per year, on any of the last five working days of May or November, serve notice of its intention to review the conditions of this consent for the purposes of: a. Dealing with an adverse effect on the environment occurring as a result of the exercise of this resource consent; or b. Requiring best practicable options to be adopted by the consent holder to remove or reduce any adverse effect on the environment as a result of	

the exercise of this resource consent; or c. Requiring the consent holder to carry out monitoring and reporting instead of, or in addition to, that required by the resource consent; or d. Requiring the consent holder to comply with a relevant rule in an operative regional plan.	
18. If this consent is not exercised before (35 years – final date to align with duration) then it shall lapse in accordance with section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991. Advice Note: A 35-year duration was sought by Meridian as part of the Fast-track process. 'Exercised' is defined as implementing any requirements to operate this consent and undertaking the activity as described in these conditions and/or application documents.	

Panel Draft Conditions

CRC262542 Section 15 Consent to discharge of contaminants to air

Meridian Energy: Response to draft conditions and comments

Condition	Comments
Scope Note: This consent authorises the discharge of contaminants to air associated with the Lake Pūkaki Hydro Storage and Dam Resilience Works and the following activities: a. Constructing access tracks and ramps. b. Transporting rock from the existing stockpile sites to the temporary construction stockpile areas. c. Constructing work benches. d. Constructing toe along the Dam. e. Rock placement on the Dam. f. Rock placement on abutments. g. Establishment of temporary buildings within or adjacent to the main carpark and adjacent to the left abutment. h. Decommission of all temporary work sites. i. Maintenance/management of temporary stockpiles within the construction area.	<u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian suggests removing reference to 'hydro storage'. The consent only relates to the Dam Resilience Works and the consent relating to hydro storage will expire in 2028.
General Conditions	
1. All discharges to air authorised by this consent shall be located at Lake Pūkaki within the area identified as 'works area' on Plan CRC262541 at or about map reference NZTM 1371515E, 5103020N.	
2. No discharge to air authorised by this consent shall cause objectionable or offensive effects, including dust deposits and/or discharges of particulate matter	

beyond the boundary of the application site defined by Condition 1.	
3. The Site Manager, or another nominated person, must be available at all times during rock armouring activities to respond to dust emissions complaints and issues. The contact details shall be displayed on signage at the entrance to the main carpark (being the carpark that services the public toilets, visitor centre and salmon shop at NZTM 1371515E, 5103020N).	
4. The consent holder must notify Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (nohoanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz), and Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance): a. at least ten working days before the start of any activities authorised by this consent. The notification shall include: i. The proposed start and end dates of the period of work; ii. The proposed start and end time of activity on each day during the period of works; <u>and</u> iii. Where the consent is to be exercised by a person other than the consent holder, the name, address and contact telephone number of the persons exercising the consent; <u>and</u>. b. Whether <u>If</u> the consent holder is considering closing the campsite and campervan parking area as a result of dust generation arising from the exercise of this consent. (Note: Any decision to close the campsite shall be undertaken in consultation with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Nohoanga Team and LINZ).	<u>Kā Rūnaka and TRoNT</u> Meridian supports the proposed amendments to this condition as outlined in the comments from Kā Rūnaka and TRoNT. The amendments are shown here in tracked changes. Note: the formatting of this condition has been updated as requested by Kā Rūnaka and TRoNT, but it not shown in tracked changes. Meridian also supports the Panel's inclusion of Land Information New Zealand in condition 4b.
5. Where works have been discontinued for more than eight consecutive days the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention:	

Compliance Manager) and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (ngaitahu@ngaitahu.iwi.nz) shall be re-notified at least five working days prior to the recommencement of works.	
DUST MANAGEMENT PLAN	
6. The consent holder must produce and comply with a Dust Management Plan ('DMP') at all times.	
7. The purpose of the DMP is to provide a framework for managing dust emissions from the activities authorised under this consent to minimise any effects of dust discharges on the surrounding environment. The DMP shall: a. Be prepared in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Canterbury Air Regional Plan; b. Be retained on site at all times; c. Be provided to all persons operating or carrying out the activities authorised by this consent; d. Be prepared by a suitably qualified experienced practitioner in air quality; and e. Include details on how the conditions of this consent will be complied with. The DMP shall be in accordance with the Dust Management Plan (DRAFT), prepared by GHD Limited, dated 19 May 2026, Version 6, and include: a. A description of the site location and the receiving environment; b. A system for training employees and contractors to make them aware of the requirements relating to dust mitigation and the conditions of this resource consent; c. Identifying staff responsibilities for implementing and reviewing the Dust Management Procedures;	

d. A description of all on-site activities authorised by this consent and dust sources on site; e. A description of the weather conditions that trigger the requirement for dust suppression activities; f. Details of location(s) of and appropriate installation of an onsite weather station; g. The methods to be used for controlling dust at each source during on-site activities including speed restrictions for internal access roads, and additional procedures for handling high risk dust-generating materials, h. A description of the methods for the use and source of water for dust suppression on all exposed areas on dry and/or windy days, including how and when water will be applied to maintain damp surfaces; i. The frequency and triggers of when water will be used to maintain damp surfaces and when these measures are to commence on dry and/or windy days; j. A description of the contingency measures to be used on-site, including sensitive receptor triggers to initiate PM₁₀ monitoring; k. Procedures, processes and methods for managing dust when staff are not on site; l. Procedures to be undertaken to ensure dust is managed during times when works may be delayed for an extended period of time and upon completion of works; and m. A requirement to visually monitor State Highway 8 road conditions during all works periods and undertake road	
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sweeping if there is excessive deposition on the road surface. Advice Note: <i>When water is required for dust suppression, water will be brought to site in water trucks. This will be the responsibility of the contractor. Other consents held by Meridian Energy Ltd do not provide for this use.</i>	
8. Before first exercise of this consent, the consent holder must provide a copy of their proposed DMP to Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) for confirmation that it complies with the conditions of this consent (the 'Approved DMP'). If no response from Canterbury Regional Council is provided within 20 working days of submitting the plan for certification the consent holder shall proceed as if the plan has been approved.	
9. The Approved DMP may be amended by the consent holder provided such amendments are consistent with the objective of minimising any effects of dust discharges on the surrounding environment. Any amended DMP shall be submitted to Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) for certification that it complies with the conditions of this consent.	
10. An updated DMP must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of Condition 7 at least once every five years from the commencement of this consent. The updated plan must include consideration of any changes to the sensitivity of the receiving environment, including sensitive receptor locations, and improvements in dust mitigation and monitoring methods. The updated DMP shall be submitted to Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Manager Compliance) for certification that it	

complies with the conditions of this consent.	
11. The consent holder may implement any amended or updated DMP after 20 working days of it being submitted for certification if Canterbury Regional council has not notified the consent holder of its decision. If Canterbury Regional Council notifies the consent holder that the amended DMP does not comply with the conditions of this consent the consent holder shall immediately (within 5 working days) revert to implementing the Approved DMP.	
DUST MITIGATION	
12. The consent holder shall ensure a water cart is held on site for the duration of each works period, with sufficient availability of water to meet dust suppressant requirements in the Approved DMP.	
13. The consent holder must utilise all reasonably practicable measures to minimise the discharge of dust from rock armouring activities on-site: a. On dry days when dust suppression activities are triggered by the Dust Management Plan; and b. When there is any visible emission of dust from the site.	
14. The consent holder shall install an on-site weather station during any periods of construction work to monitor wind and rain conditions. The weather station shall: a. Be located on or immediately adjacent to the site in accordance with AS/NZS 3580:14-2014 (Methods for sampling and analysis of ambient air – Part 14	

Meteorological monitoring for ambient air quality monitoring applications). If the monitoring station cannot be located in accordance with AS/NZS 580:14-2014 an alternative location shall be agreed in writing with the Canterbury Regional Council; b. Maintain a date and time stamped electronic record of meteorological monitoring results, recorded as rolling 10-minute averages, which are up-dated every one-minute in real-time; c. Send an alarm to the Site Manager (for example via mobile phone) if the wind speed trigger level identified in the Approved DMP is reached or exceeded. The Site Manager must then undertake additional mitigation as deemed necessary; d. Be maintained and calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications; and e. All meteorological monitoring data shall be made available to the Canterbury Regional Council on request.	
COMPLAINTS	
15. A record of all complaints relating to dust discharged to air from the site and associated activities must be maintained and shall include: a. The location where the dust was detected by the complainant; b. The date and time when the dust was detected; c. A description of the wind speed and wind direction when the dust was detected by the complainant; d. The most likely cause of the dust detected; and e. Any corrective actions undertaken by the consent	

holder to avoid, remedy, or mitigate the effects of the dust detected by the complainant.	
16. The record of any complaints and any responses or investigative actions taken as a result shall be provided to the Canterbury Regional Council (Attention: Compliance Manager) on request.	
ANNUAL REPORT	
17. The consent holder shall prepare an annual monitoring report for the period of 1 July to 30 June to the CRC (Attention: Compliance Manager), by 30 September each year that the consent is exercised (i.e. if there have been no rock armouring activities over the 12-month period no report is required).	
18. The annual monitoring report shall include but not be limited to: a. A record of any periods when construction work was undertaken, including the dates and duration of the work. b. The complaints record required in accordance with Condition 14.	
ADMINISTRATION	
19. The Canterbury Regional Council may, once per year, on any of the last five working days of May or November, serve notice of its intention to review the conditions of this consent for the purposes of: a. Dealing with an adverse effect on the environment occurring as a result of the exercise of this resource consent; or b. Requiring best practicable options to be adopted by the consent holder to	

	remove or reduce any adverse effect on the environment as a result of the exercise of this resource consent; or c. Requiring the consent holder to carry out monitoring and reporting instead of, or in addition to, that required by the resource consent; or d. Requiring the consent holder to comply with a relevant rule in an operative regional plan.
20.	If this consent is not exercised before (35 years – final date to align with duration) then it shall lapse in accordance with section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991. Advice Note: <i>A 35-year duration was sought by Meridian as part of the Fast-track process. 'Exercised' is defined as implementing any requirements to operate this consent and undertaking the activity as described in these conditions and/or application documents.</i>

Panel Draft Conditions

CRC262543 Section 13 Consent to disturb and to deposit material on the bed of Lake Pūkaki

Meridian Energy: Response to draft conditions and comments

Condition	Comments
Scope Note: This land use consent only authorises works associated with the Lake Pūkaki Hydro Storage and Dam Resilience Works project that occur outside of the Lake Pūkaki dam face itself. This consent does not authorise the discharge of contaminants to land or water associated with these activities. These discharges are authorised by discharge consent CRC262541.	<u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian suggests removing reference to 'hydro storage'. The consent only relates to the Dam Resilience Works and the consent relating to hydro storage will expire in 2028.
General Conditions	
1. The activities authorised by this consent shall be associated with the rock armouring of Lake Pūkaki Dam and limited to: - The excavation and disturbance of the bed of Lake Pūkaki. - The deposition of aggregate and rock armouring in, on or under the bed of Lake Pūkaki. - Establishing and decommissioning haul roads to work areas.	
2. The works carried out in accordance with Condition 1 shall be located at Lake Pūkaki within the area identified as 'works area' on Plan CRC262543, which forms part of this consent.	
3. The works shall be undertaken in <u>general</u> accordance with the attached design plans CRC262543A which form part of this consent.	<u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian seeks the inclusion of 'general' as tracked in column 1. The dam armouring works are currently going through the building consent process. This may

	result in minor amendments to the proposed design.
PRIOR TO WORKS COMMENCING	
4. Before starting work the Consent Holder shall provide a copy of this consent to staff and contractors undertaking the activities authorised by this consent and explain to them how to comply with the conditions.	
5. The consent holder shall ensure that: a. The Canterbury Regional Council, Attention: Compliance Manager, and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (nohoanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz) and Land Information New Zealand, are notified at least ten working days prior to the commencement of works; and b. Where works have been discontinued for more than eight consecutive days, the Canterbury Regional Council Attention: Compliance Manager shall be re-notified at least five working days prior to the recommencement of works. Notification shall include: i. The proposed start date of the period of work; ii. The proposed start and end time of works on each day during the period of works; and iii. Where the consent is to be exercised by a person other than the consent holder, the name, address and contact telephone number of the persons exercising the consent. Advice Note: Notification to CRC may be via emailing ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz	<u>Land Information New Zealand</u> LINZ requested they be notified 10 working days prior to works starting. Meridian supports this amendment. Changes have been tracked in Column 1.
6. The consent holder shall ensure all works are carried out in accordance with Lake Pūkaki Reservoir Hydro Storage and Dam Resilience Works Erosion and Sediment	

Control Plan dated XXX [to be confirmed], attached to and forming a part of this consent (the 'Approved ESCP'). Advice Note: The Canterbury Regional Council Erosion & Sediment Control Toolbox for Canterbury can be found at http://esccanterbury.co.nz/	
7. The Approved ESCP may be amended at any time. Any amendments shall be: a. For the purpose of improving the efficacy of the erosion and sediment control measures and hazardous substance management, and shall not result in reduced discharge quality; b. Consistent with the conditions of this resource consent; and c. Submitted in writing to the Canterbury Regional Council, Attention: Compliance Manager for confirmation that it complies with the conditions of this consent prior to any amendment being implemented.	
8. The consent holder may implement any amended ESCP after 20 working days of it being submitted for certification if Canterbury Regional Council has not notified the consent holder of its decision. If Canterbury Regional Council notify the consent holder that the amended ESCP does not comply with the conditions of this consent the consent holder shall immediately (within 5 working days) revert to implementing the Approved ESCP.	
9. All practicable measures shall be undertaken during works to minimise: a. Erosion of the bed and banks of Lake Pūkaki; and b. The discharge of sediment to Lake Pūkaki as a result of the works; and	
10. In the event of any erosion occurring to the bed or banks of Lake Pūkaki as a	

result of the works, the consent holder shall be responsible for rectifying the situation.	
11. Works shall: a. Only occur between 0600 hrs and 1930 hrs b. Not occur on: i. Good Friday to Easter Monday (inclusive) ii. 24, 25, 26 and 31 December and 1 January iii. New Zealand Public Holidays observed in the Mackenzie District	
DURING WORKS	
12. In the event of any disturbance of Koiwi Tangata (human bones) or Taonga (treasured artefacts), the consent holder shall immediately: a. Advise the Canterbury Regional Council of the disturbance, b. Advise the Upoko of Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua or their representative, and the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, of the disturbance; and c. Cease earthmoving operations / works in the affected area until an area has been marked off around the site, and Kaumatua and archaeologists have given the approval for the activity to commence. Note: <i>This condition is in addition to any agreements that are in place between the consent holder and the Rūnanga Upoko or the New Zealand Historic Places Trust.</i>	
13. All practicable measures shall be undertaken to prevent oil and fuel leaks from vehicles and machinery including but not limited to: a. There shall be no storage of fuel or refuelling of vehicles and	

machinery within 20 metres of flowing water or water bodies. b. Fuel shall be stored securely or removed from the site overnight. c. The pump shall be attended at all times during refuelling. d. Drip trays shall be used at all times during refuelling. e. A spill response kit shall be kept on site at all times.	
14. To prevent the spread of pest species, including but not limited to didymo, the consent holder shall ensure that activities authorised by this consent are undertaken in accordance with Biosecurity New Zealand's hygiene procedures and that machinery shall be free from plants and plant species before use in water.	
ADMINISTRATION	
15. The Canterbury Regional Council may, once per year, on any of the last five working days of May or November, serve notice of its intention to review the conditions of this consent for the purposes of: a. Dealing with an adverse effect on the environment occurring as a result of the exercise of this resource consent; or b. Requiring best practicable options to be adopted by the consent holder to remove or reduce any adverse effect on the environment as a result of the exercise of this resource consent; or c. Requiring the consent holder to carry out monitoring and reporting instead of, or in addition to, that required by the resource consent; or d. Requiring the consent holder to comply with a relevant rule in an operative regional plan.	

16. If this consent is not exercised before (35 years, final date to align with duration) then it shall lapse in accordance with section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991. Advice Note: A 35-year duration was sought by Meridian as part of the Fast-track process. 'Exercised' is defined as implementing any requirements to operate this consent and undertaking the activity as described in these conditions and/or application documents.	
<u>New Conditions requested by NZTA</u>	
17. <u>Prior to the movement of rock material to the site by heavy construction vehicles, the applicant shall implement temporary traffic management on State Highway 8 via an authorised Traffic Management Plan for the duration of rip-rap works.</u>	Meridian Supports the inclusion of this condition.
18. <u>If authorised by the New Zealand Transport Agency, the consent holder shall undertake a pre and post construction condition survey of the State Highway 8 pavement, kerbs and channels for the sections of State Highway 8 utilised by heavy construction vehicles associated with the rip-rap works to identify existing pavement condition and damage. A pre and post construction survey shall be undertaken for each phase of construction. Any pavement damage caused by the rip-rap construction traffic shall be repaired within 1 month of the completion of construction to match or exceed the standard of the existing pavement. The limits of the survey are 30 m in either direction from the section of utilised highway.</u> <u>Advice note:</u> <u>Before the installation of any temporary traffic management or prior to any physical work on the state highway you are legally required to apply to the New Zealand Transport Agency for a Corridor Access Request (CAR) and for that request to be approved. Please submit your CAR to www.submitica.com a minimum of fourteen working days prior to the commencement of any works on the state highway; longer is advised for complex works</u>	Meridian supports the inclusion of this condition.

Panel Draft Conditions

Wildlife Authority

Meridian Energy: Response to comments from the Department of Conservation on draft conditions

Note: In the table below, the Condition column shows the Panel's draft condition with DOC's proposed changes in tracked changes (where Meridian support the changes). The Comment column provides Meridian's supporting comments in relation to Meridian's proposed changes and Meridian's responses to changes sought that Meridian do not support.

Meridian is not independently requesting any changes to the draft conditions proposed by the Panel.

The Department of Conservation's proposed new conditions have been added at the end of the table and are shown in red.

Draft Condition	Meridian Response to DOC Comments
Schedule 1A	
Authorised Activity: <u>For the purpose of the activity authorised in Fast-track Approval (insert reference) on the Land identified in Schedule 1B, Capturing, Salvaging, Holding, liberating, incidentally-Accidentally</u> Harming or Killing the following lizard species: 1. McCann's skink (<i>Oligosoma maccanni</i>) 2. Southern grass skink (<i>Oligosoma chionochloescens</i>) 3. Southern Alps gecko (<i>Woodworthia "Southern Alps"</i>) 4. Mackenzie skink (<i>Oligosoma prasinum</i>)	Meridian supports these amendments.

Schedule 1B	
The Land: To catch alive, hold and incidentally kill at the following sites identified in the LMP at Appendix A, Figures 1, 2 and 4. 1. Dam armouring access tracks and material laydown: 44°11'24.7"S 170°08'31.6"E 2. South stockpile (6.3 ha): 44°11'37.0"S 170°08'39.4"E 3. North stockpile (0.8 ha): 44°11'16.7"S 170°09'02.4"E To liberate: 1. At the relocation site identified in the LMP at Appendix A, Figure	Meridian supports these amendments.
Schedule 1C	
Term: [date of Authority] to [date 35 years from date of Authority]	Meridian supports these amendments.
Schedule 1D	
Authorised Personnel: 1. Graham Ussher	Meridian supports these amendments.
Schedule 1E	
Authority Holder: Meridian Energy Limited	
Schedule 1F	
Authority Holder's address for notices: Environment Team Meridian Energy Limited Level 2, 98 Customhouse Quay Wellington 6011.	
Schedule 1G	
Director-General's address for notices and all other correspondence: Permissions Team Level 4 73 Rostrevor Street Hamilton 3204 Email: permissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz	
Conditions	
1. This Authority applies only to the lizard species specified in Schedule 1A.	

2. If, in the course of any lizard survey or salvage activity, all reasonable effort has been made to meet all of the conditions expressed and implied in this Authority, and wildlife is killed by the Authority Holder, then that will be permitted under this Authority.	
3. DOC Operations Manager(s) are to be contacted immediately for further advice if species of protected wildlife other than those listed in Schedule 1A, including other than lizards are located within the footprint of a planned activity. A separate application in relation to non-authorised species will be required.	
4. This Authority gives the Authority Holder the right to hold absolutely protected wildlife in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Authorisation, but the wildlife remains the property of the Crown. This includes any dead wildlife, live wildlife, any parts thereof, any eggs or progeny of the wildlife, genetic material and any replicated genetic material.	
5. Unless expressly authorised by the Director-General in writing, the Authority Holder must not donate, sell or otherwise transfer to any third party any wildlife, material, including any genetic material, or any material propagated or cloned from such material, collected under this Authority. Note: <i>The exception to this is the collection of eDNA which will be sent to a third party for genetic analysis to assess species presence.</i>	
6. The Authorised Any lizard salvage activities must be undertaken in accordance with the approved Lizard Management Plan for the project annexed to this	Meridian supports this amendment.

Authority (<i>Lake Pūkaki Fast Track Consent Substantive Application – Lizard Management Plan</i> , Version 3, April 2026: Tonkin and Taylor Limited) (LMP).	
7. Lizards must only be handled by Personnel Authorised <u>Personnel listed in Schedule 1D to Undertake this Activity</u> or under the direct supervision of Authorised Personnel, <u>unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Director-General of Conservation</u> .	Meridian supports these amendments.
8. Lizard capture, handling and relocation should be undertaken at a suitable time of year when lizards are active. October to April inclusive is the usual duration, but this will vary by location and altitude.	DOC have suggested that this condition needs amending to align with the section of the LMP which sets out when salvage may be appropriate during May to September 2026. Alternatively, DOC have suggested that the condition may be deleted as Condition 6 addresses the relevant activities. Meridian supports the <u>deletion</u> of this condition.
9. Capture and handling of lizards must involve only techniques that minimise the risk of infection or injury to the animal.	
10. The Authority Holder is only permitted to release wildlife that are listed in Schedule 1A using methods described in the LMP written for the particular lizard salvage operation.	
11. Capture and handling methods shall follow those described in the Herpetofauna inventory and monitoring toolbox http://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/biodiversity-inventory-and-monitoring/herpetofauna/ <u>Herpetofauna: Modules for biodiversity inventory and monitoring</u>	Meridian supports this amendment.
12. The Authority Holder must ensure all live capture traps are covered to protect lizards from exposure and minimise stress. Damp leaf litter or other material must	

be provided to reduce desiccation risk and the bottom of the pit-fall trap must be perforated to allow drainage of water. The Authority Holder must ensure that all live capture traps contain retreats to minimise risk of predation events within the trap.	
13. If any mortality is detected, due consideration shall be made, and documented, that show measures have been taken to reduce mortality. Measures may include, but are not limited to, providing additional protection from weather, undertaking rodent suppression by trapping and/or poisoning at the site; not conducting live-trapping where mouse numbers have irrupted following grass seeding (where predation has been the cause of mortality); twice-daily trap checks, switching catching devices, or some combination of these measures.	
14. The Authority Holder must ensure all live capture traps, (e.g. pitfall traps), are checked at least every 24 hours.	
15. The Authority Holder must sterilise any instruments that come in contact with the lizards and/or are used to collect or measure lizards between each location. A separate holding bag must be used for each animal. All gear should be thoroughly cleaned and dried between sites.	
16. The Authority Holder must ensure lizards are temporarily held individually in a suitable container (e.g. breathable cloth bag) and held out of direct sunlight to minimise the risk of overheating, stress and death.	

17. If any lizards should die during the authorised activities of catch, transfer or liberate, the Authority Holder must: a. inform the Director-General within 48 hours; b. If requested by the Director-General, chill the body if it can be delivered within 72 hours, or freeze the body if delivery will take longer than 72 hours; c. send the body to Massey University Wildlife Post-mortem Service for necropsy, along with details of the animal's history; d. pay for any costs incurred in investigation of the death of any lizard, if required to do so by the Director-General; and e. If required by the Director-General, cease the Authorised Activity for a period determined by the Grantor.	
18. If any lizards are found injured as part of the Authorised Activity, the Authority Holder shall seek advice from the Authority holder on management of the lizard(s).	
19. The Authority Holder must not euthanise any wildlife unless: a. The Authority Holder obtains authority from the Director-General; or b. A veterinarian recommends euthanasia on animal welfare grounds; or c. The Authority Holder euthanises the wildlife under direction from the Director-General.	
20. The Authority Holder must provide an annual report or reports to the Director-General on any additional lizard surveys undertaken. These must be electronically forwarded to the Director-General at XXXXXXXXXpermissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz and the DOC Operations Manager for Twizel at twizel@doc.govt.nz citing the	Meridian supports this amendment.

<u>Project Name</u> citing the Authority Number XXXXXXX. These reports must be submitted by 30 June each year.	
21. For all salvage operations a report on each salvage operation is to be submitted in writing to XXXXXXXXXpermissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz and to the DOC Operations Manager <u>for Twizel</u> at XXXXXXXXXtwizel@doc.govt.nz by 30 June each year for the life of this Authorisation, summarising outcomes in accordance with any specific Lizard Management Plan. Each report must include: a. The <u>project name</u>authority number; and b. the species and number of any animals collected and released; c. the GPS location (or a detailed map) of the collection point(s) and release point(s); d. results of all surveys, monitoring or research; and e. description of how the Lizard Management Plan was implemented including any difficulties encountered with capture and handling, how release sites were assessed, post release monitoring and what contingency actions were required.	Meridian supports this amendment.
22. For all survey and salvage operations undertaken, completed Amphibian and Reptile Distribution System (ARDS) cards for all herpetofauna sightings and captures (<u>Amphibian and Reptile Distribution Scheme: Herpetofauna data collection</u>) (http://www.doc.govt.nz/conservation/native-animals/reptiles-and-frogs/species-information/herpetofauna-data-collection/ards-card/), must be sent to Herpetofauna, Department of Conservation, National Office, PO Box 10420 Wellington 6143 or herpetofauna@doc.govt.nz. For more information refer to: <u>Species sightings and reptile species information</u>http://www.doc.govt.nz/conservation/native-animals/reptiles-and-frogs/species-information/herpetofauna-data-collection/ards-card/	Meridian supports these amendments.

frogs/reptiles and frogs distribution information/species sightings and data-management/).	
23. All reports submitted under Conditions 20 and 21 above must contain any implications of the results for conservation management.	
24. The Authority Holder acknowledges that the Director-General may provide copies of the reports referred-to in Conditions 20 and 21 above to tangata whenua and the general public if requested.	
25. Didymo biosecurity - The Authority Holder must comply with the Ministry for Primary Industries' (MPI)'s "Check, Clean, Dry" cleaning methods to prevent the spread of didymo (Didymosphenia geminata) and other freshwater pests when moving between waterways. "Check, Clean, Dry" cleaning methods can be found at - http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/cleaning .	
COMPENSATION MANAGEMENT PLAN	
26. Prior to works commencing an updated Compensation Management Plan (CMP) shall be submitted to the Director-General at XXXXXXXXXpermissionshamilton @doc.govt.nz citing the Authority Number XXXXXXXX for Authority .	In addition to the amended contact details tracked in column 1, DOC have sought the word 'updated' be amended to 'certified'. DOC also seek that where adverse effects on lizards occur, the Authority Holder must provide a compensation fund to DOC.¹ <u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian does not support the requested amendments. There is no certification process proposed for the CMP. The additional wording proposed by DOC suggests that compensation would extend beyond that already agreed and

¹ DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Page 6

	that compensation would be payable anytime there are adverse effects on lizards.
LIZARD FENCE	
27. A Lizard exclusion fence must be established <ins>installed</ins> to separate the known Mackenzie skink habitat areas from the North stockpile. The fence shall be established to exclude-prevent Mackenzie skink from entering the North stockpile.	Meridian supports these amendments.
28. The fence must be constructed so that it extends a minimum of 500 m em <ins>off above</ins> the ground level and be dug-buried approximately 50-100 mm into-below <ins>the</ins> ground level with a return or <ins>lip to prevent so that</ins> lizards burrowing-cannot dig under the fence. Stakes must be established-installed at approximately 2 m intervals apart to support the fence. A lizard proof gate may form part of the fence to allow access to the rock material.	Meridian supports these amendments.
29. The fence must be maintained until all rock material from the North stockpile has been utilised. Annual inspections are to be undertaken to ensure the fence continues to function as intended.	DOC requested that the fence be maintained until all rock material from the North stockpile, including newly introduced rock, has been utilised. ² <u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian does not support this amendment as we consider the current consent wording to be clearer.
30. The fence must be designed and constructed in accordance with the specifications set out in the certified LMP and must incorporate polythene to deter skinks from climbing the fence <ins>design of the lizard exclusion fence shall be constructed in accordance with the design specifications set out in the LMP.</ins>	Meridian supports these amendments.
ONGOING MANAGEMENT	
31. On or prior to the 10 th , 20 th and 30 th anniversaries of the approval of this Authority the Authority Holder must undertake a lizard survey across the stockpile, laydown	DOC recommend introducing additional surveys at the 5 th , 15 th and 25 th anniversaries of the approval to align with 5 yearly reviews of the impacted species threat classification.

² DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Page 7

and temporary building areas to review and quantify any change to the lizard population on site.	<u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian does not support 5 yearly surveys to align with DOC's threat classification review schedule. As set out in the Response Evidence of Mr Sam Heggie Grace (dated 15 April 2026), the likelihood of lizards recolonising the northern stockpile site is extremely low given the presence of the lizard exclusion fence. 10 yearly surveys across the remaining site areas are considered adequate to review and quantify any change to the lizard population across the site. While Meridian supports the conservative approach proposed by the Panel of additional surveys at the 20th and 30th anniversaries of the approval, additional surveys at 5 yearly intervals are not justified by the extremely low likelihood of effect.
32. For any lizards are identified in the Northern stockpile an additional salvage operation shall be undertaken at that location in accordance with the LMP.	
33. Following the completion of the above survey the LMP shall be reviewed and updated to include the results of the survey and any updated threat classifications. The updated Lizard Management Plan shall be submitted to the Director-General at XXXXXXXXXpermissionshamilton@doc.govt.nz citing the Authority Number XXXXXXXX for confirmation that it meets the requirements of this Authority.	DOC have requested additional amendments to this condition to require certification of the LMP.³ <u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian does not support the addition of a certification requirement as the LMP submitted with the Response package contains sufficient detail that it can be confirmed by the Panel. If a certification process was to be included, Meridian requests that additional conditions setting out the timeframes and disputes resolution process be included.
VARIATIONS	

³ DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Page 7

34. The Authority Holder may apply to the Director General for variations to this Authority in accordance with clause (7)(2) of Schedule 7 of the Fast-Track Approvals Act 2024.	
REVOCATION	
35. The Director-General may revoke this Authority in whole or in part at any time (pursuant to clause 7(4) of Schedule 7 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 if: a. The Authority Holder breaches any of the conditions of this Authority. b. In the Director-General's opinion, the exercise of this Authority has caused or is likely to cause any unforeseen adverse effects on lizards. If the Director-General intends to revoke this Authority in whole or in part, the Director-General must give the Authority Holder such prior notice as is reasonable and necessary in the circumstances.	
COSTS	
36. The Authority Holder must pay the standard Department of Conservation charge-out rates for any staff time and mileage required to monitor compliance with this Authority and to investigate any alleged breaches of the terms and conditions of it.	
LIABILITIES	
37. The Authority Holder agrees to exercise the Authority at its own risk and releases to the full extent permitted by law, the Director-General and Director-General's employees and agents from all claims and demands of any kind and from all liability which may arise in respect of any accident, damage or injury occurring to any person or property arising from the Authority Holder's exercise of this Authority.	

COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION AND DIRECTOR GENERAL'S NOTICES AND DIRECTIONS	
38. The Authority Holder must comply with all statutes, bylaws, and regulations, and all notices, directions, and requisitions of the Director-General and any competent authority relating to the exercise of the Authority.	
EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, OR AGENTS	
39. The Authority Holder is responsible for the acts and omissions of its employees, contractors, and agents. The Authority Holder is liable under the Authority for any breach of its terms by employees, contractors, or agents, as if the breach were committed by the Authority Holder. Where obligations bind more than one person, those obligations bind those persons jointly and separately.	
NEW CONDITIONS PROPOSED BY DOC⁴	
The fence must be inspected by a herpetologist following installation and following the introduction of any new rock to the North stockpile to ensure it is suitable for the intended purpose. The authority holder must ensure the fence is inspected at least annually to confirm it remains effective and fit for purpose.	DOC sought the inclusion of this condition as condition 29A, to improve clarity and certainty. <u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian does not support the first part of this condition. The fence has been designed by a herpetologist to enable construction by the contractor. Condition 29 already includes provision for the fence to be inspected annually to ensure it continues to function as intended.
Rehabilitation of disturbed area to provide lizard habitat. The Authority Holder must rehabilitate all areas disturbed by the lawful activity including earth worked areas, laydown areas and rock storage areas.	DOC have sought this condition to generate habitat gains for affected species. <u>Meridian Energy</u> Meridian opposes this condition.

⁴ DOC Comments on draft conditions for a fast-track consenting application Pages 8 and 9

	Final site rehabilitation conditions have been agreed with CRC and are contain in CRC262541.
The Authority Holder must follow these rehabilitation design requirements and produce and implement a Rehabilitation Plan that includes the following: a. A description of plant species, planting densities and spatial arrangements to best restore suitable lizard habitat. b. Rock augmentation measures, including rock size, distribution and habitat configuration designed to support lizard occupancy. c. A maintenance schedule, including weed control to promote habitat quality indefinitely. d. Rehabilitation and predator control targets including methods for corrective actions if targets are not met.	DOC have sought this condition to generate habitat gains for affected species. <u>Meridian Energy</u> The proposed disturbance areas are located on Meridian-owned land and are key to the ongoing operational of a nationally significant hydroelectric site. Meridian stores rock at the site for dam safety and erosion protection purposes, and the stockpiles will be replenished as material is used so dam armouring works can continue when lake levels fall and ongoing operations can continue. Meridian therefore strongly opposes habitat enhancement conditions within the site that would conflict with future hydro-related activities. Meridian does not support intentionally recreating incidental lizard habitat that was never intended to be permanent. There is also abundant suitable habitat for lizards nearby. This is proposing a standard to Meridian's owned operational land where there is no evidence that it is not applied elsewhere on any land managed by the Department.
The Rehabilitation Plan must include a predator control regime that: a. Targets rodents and hedgehogs b. Specifies control methods and duration c. Includes ongoing monitoring of predator activity.	DOC have sought this condition to generate habitat gains for affected species. <u>Meridian Energy</u>

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	The proposed disturbance areas are located on Meridian-owned land and are key to the ongoing operational activities of a nationally significant hydroelectric site. Meridian stores rock at the site for dam safety and erosion protection purposes, and the stockpiles will be replenished as material is used so dam armouring works can continue when lake levels fall and ongoing operations can continue. Meridian therefore strongly opposes habitat enhancement conditions within the site that would conflict with future hydro-related activities. Meridian does not support intentionally recreating incidental lizard habitat that was never intended to be permanent. There is also abundant suitable habitat for lizards nearby.
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