

2 December 2025

Memo – Response to letter from Te Akitai Waiohū Settlement Trust

Tēnā koutou katoa Expert Panel

This memo is in response to the letter sent to the Expert Panel for Sunfield from Te Akitai Waiohū Settlement Trust ('TAWST') dated 17 November 2025 (being the 'TAWST Letter').

Questions and comments raised in the letter are now before the Expert Panel to evaluate, however, on behalf of the Applicant for Sunfield, I note the following for the Expert Panel's consideration:

- The statement made at point 5 within the TAWST Letter that *'The Applicant has not communicated with TAWST since before comments were submitted'* is an incorrect statement. As shown by the attached email correspondence, I, on behalf of the Applicant for Sunfield, emailed TAWST the same day as the comments were received from TAWST. Within this email was an invitation to meet to discuss TAWST concerns with the Sunfield development.
- Following this email, I contacted by phone a TAWST appointed consultant to follow up the invitation to meet. A voicemail received (and recording held) from that consultant on 4 August 2025 explained the Chair was overseas and was unable to meet. Following this, I communicated that the Applicant was willing to meet TAWST at a time of their convenience to discuss Sunfield and any concerns held by TAWST.
- As the Expert Panel is aware, the proposed mana whenua conditions for Sunfield contained within the Sunfield Consent Conditions provide significant opportunity for each of the six Iwi Authorities (including Te Akitai Waiohū) for ongoing and meaningful consultation to adequately support the mitigation of any possible adverse impacts on cultural values during the development of Sunfield. Each of the six Iwi Authorities (including Te Akitai Waiohū) were provided with the twenty specific proposed mana whenua conditions (along with an accompanying document explaining each of the conditions and its purpose), and a link to the full suite of Sunfield Consent Conditions. A response was received from TAWST as detailed in the attached email that states, *'Thank you for your email dated 9 July 2025, providing the draft advice note to be added to the conditions and reconfirming Winton's commitment to enter into iwi specific MOU or outcomes agreements for ongoing involvement in the lifetime of the project.'*
- As detailed within the TAWST Letter at point 12, TAWST supports the Council's Issues Table and has not raised additional items. The Applicant has, and continues to engage, with Council on those issues.

As is detailed within the Sunfield Mana Whenua Engagement Report, which forms part of the Sunfield Substantial Application, the engagement undertaken by the Applicant and Navigator Limited provides evidence of authentic engagement with the six Iwi Authorities on the Sunfield development. The commitment by the Applicant to enter into individual outcomes agreements for the "lifetime of the project" is further evidence of authentic engagement.

Whilst the Expert Panel is considering the application, the Applicant remains willing to discuss any issues that TAWST may have with Sunfield at their convenience.

Ngā mihi,

Tiumalu Peter Fa'afiu

Simon Ash

From: Peter Faafiu [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 4:38 PM
To: Chloe Trenouth
Cc: Nigel Snr; Jeff Lee; Simon Ash; Karen Wilson [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Sunfield FTAA and individual outcomes agreements

Importance: High

Hi Chloe,

Thank you for your email and the response that has been sent into the EPA today.

Given the nearly five years of engagement on the Sunfield site, it would be have been preferable to engage with you on the concerns prior to the response being sent in.

Thank you for the specific comments provided on the draft conditions as your Attachment 1. We welcome an opportunity to engage further on the conditions as some of those matters have also been raised previously by our engagements with Jeff and therefore reflected in the draft conditions.

However, the specific constructive comments on the draft conditions don't align with the conclusion Te Aakitai Waiohua has reached in opposing the Sunfield project application.

Whilst the planning aspects driven by successive policy changes has seen different consenting paths, it is the same site. We have been meaningfully engaging with the representative of Te Aakitai Waiohua since March 2021.

Your letter noted an update on the Sunfield project going through the new fast-track legislation was provided in "November 2024". Our records show that email updates on the same topic were provided in November 2024 (3x), December 2024, February 2025, May 2025 and of course during June when you replaced Jeff, after four years of engagement, as the relevant Iwi consultant. At each time, the offer of further discussion was provided to ensure Te Aakitai Waiohua was not under pressure to review the substantive application during the tight timeline set by the legislation; a piece of legislation which we are aware that the Iwi was opposed to. The fact that these offers were not taken up could not be seen as non-recognition by SDL of the Iwi's cultural significance to Takaanini, but actually the opposite.

Whilst Te Aakitai Waiohua had opposition to the FTAA, SDL's engagement with the Iwi about the same site goes back to 2021. It is on the basis of that authentic engagement over 4.5 years that is the key consideration.

We think it would be beneficial to have a meeting next week to the walk through the five headings of concern.

Let me know please of your availability and I will corral the necessary folks from our end.

The specific draft conditions themselves can be discussed at a later date.

Ngaa mihi,

Tiumalu Peter Fa'afiu

Partner | m. [REDACTED] | e [REDACTED]
www.navigator.co.nz



This communication is intended only for the persons named above. If this communication is not addressed to you, you must not use, read, distribute or copy this document. If you have received this document by mistake, please contact us immediately and destroy this original message. Thank you.

From: Chloe Trenouth [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 1 August 2025 10:59 am
To: Peter Faafiu [REDACTED]
Cc: Nigel Snr <Kaitiaki@teakitai.com>; Jeff Lee <teteconsultancy@gmail.com>; Karen Wilson [REDACTED]
Subject: Sunfield FTAA and individual outcomes agreements

Kia ora Peter,

Please find attached the comments from Te Ākitai Waiohua on the fast-track application lodged with the EPA today. Given the substantial size of the application material to get through within the timeframe, there was insufficient time available to raise these with you before lodgement.

Thank you for your email dated 9 July 2025, providing the draft advice note to be added to the conditions and reconfirming Winton's commitment to enter into iwi specific MOU or outcomes agreements for ongoing involvement in the lifetime of the project. This information was forwarded to the Chair on 11 July 2025, but Karen has not had an opportunity to consider this yet as the focus has been on reviewing and understanding the fast-track application.

Ngā mihi | Regards

Chloe Trenouth

Chloe Trenouth Consulting

M: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]