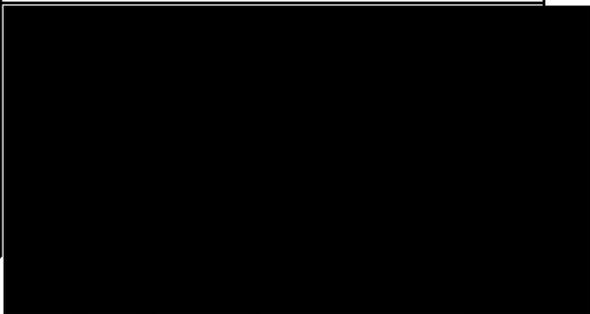


Date	10 February 2026
To	Jon Bright, Project Director – Waitaha Hydro Scheme Westpower Ltd
From	Rob Greenaway
Project advice provided for	<i>Waitaha Hydro Scheme</i>
Documents referred to	<i>Waitaha Hydro Scheme Substantive Application Appendix 28 Recreation Report</i>
Qualifications	Recorded in Appendix 28 Recreation Report
Code of Conduct	Submitted to the Panel on 21 January 2026
Signature	

1. I have reviewed Recreation Assessment Peer Review Report prepared for the Consenting Panel by Paul Wilson of Xyst dated 27 January 2025 (**Xyst Peer Review**).
2. In summary, in my opinion it is a useful review and I have little to add beyond what I have stated in my response to the DOC Recreation Report in my memo of 21 January 2026. As the Xyst Peer Review is largely in agreement with the broad findings of my assessment I only make the following brief points:
 - (a) At paragraph 72, the Xyst Peer Review agrees with the DOC Recreation Report that construction effects will be ‘significant’. By my definition this would result in the loss of ability to use the affected areas for recreation and the displacement of all or most visitors, but I see I have used this term inconsistently in my report – as pointed out. For clarity, my findings in my Table 1:4.1 is my preferred conclusion. I understand that while there may be discrete and brief exclusion areas depending on what stage the construction is at, access to the upper and lower Valleys will not be curtailed or significantly limited. Mr Jackson has updated the proposed conditions of consent to require discrete and brief exclusion, as explained his response to comments on

21 January 2026.¹ There will, however, be very high effects on the visitor experience in the Kiwi Flat area during the construction period (as set out in my technical report).

(b) The Xyst Peer Review, at paragraph 79, finds ‘moderate’ scale effects on recreation values in the Upper Waitaha Valley when maintenance activities are underway, but low effects the remainder of the time. I agree with this finding, but note that maintenance activities will be very infrequent above Kiwi Flat, and relate to three weather stations at three huts and at the bottom end of the Waitaha Gorge. The latter is not near the access route, although a helicopter accessing it would be an obvious intrusion – as would helicopter access for any recreation activity. I retain my contention that a small weather station in the vicinity of a hut is a quite minor issue. Considering the low level of maintenance required I maintain my assessment of a low level of effect on recreation values above Kiwi Flat, with no effect on recreation opportunity.

3. I clarified my response to the DOC Report in my comments of 21 January 2026 relating to my assessment of effects for Scheme infrastructure in the lower Valley. The Peer Review revisits this issue at paragraph 80. Please refer to paragraphs 22 to 24 in my 21 January 2026 response, and I note that the peer review agrees with my assessment of low-moderate effects for transmission infrastructure, and the option of re-routing the access track.

Rob Greenaway

¹ [Attachment-15-Statement-Mason-Jackson_Redacted.pdf](#), at para 5.34, and [Attachment-9-Statement-Rodger-Griffiths_Redacted.pdf](#), at para 11.