
**MINUTE 9 OF THE KAIMAI HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER SCHEME
EXPERT PANEL**

Invitation to comment on Draft Decision and Conditions

FTAA-2502-1024

24 April 2026

[1] The purpose of this Minute is to inform parties of the draft decision and draft conditions and to direct the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to invite:

- (a) Comments on the draft conditions of consent from specified parties under section 70 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA); and
- (b) Comments on the draft decision and draft conditions from specified Ministers under section 72 of the FTAA.

[2] The draft decision and conditions will be posted on the Fast-track website and can be viewed here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/kaimai-hydro-electric-power-scheme-re-consenting/draft-decision-and-conditions>.

[3] The Panel's proposed conditions are based on the Applicant's updated conditions (dated 12 February 2026) but amended as per the tracked changes.

Section 70 of the Act

[4] Under section 70, the Panel directs the EPA to invite comments on the draft conditions from:

- (a) The Applicant;
- (b) All parties who provided comments under s 53; and
- (c) Western Bay of Plenty District Council and Bay of Plenty Regional

Council.¹

[5] The Panel requests that any suggested amendments to the draft conditions are recorded as tracked changes in the Microsoft Word version of the document.

[6] If any party wishes to seek substantive amendments to the conditions the Panel requests that they endeavour to discuss and reach agreement on the amendments with the Applicant and any other relevant party. The Panel would greatly appreciate the outcome of any such discussion and agreements to be communicated to it along with the comments.

[7] All comments must be submitted by close of business by close of business **Monday 4 May 2026**.

[8] Any response by the Applicant to comments received (as provided for under section 70(4)) must be submitted by close of business **11 May 2026**.

Section 72 of the Act

[9] In accordance with section 72, the Panel seeks comments on the draft decision and conditions from:

- (a) The Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti; and
- (b) The Minister for Māori Development.

[10] All comments must be submitted by close of business **11 May 2026**.

[11] Earlier responses are encouraged to assist the Panel's final decision-making.



Gerald Lanning

Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Expert Panel Chair

¹The local authority or other body with a statutory responsibility to enforce or monitor compliance with the conditions.