

FTAA-2605-1231

30 September 2026

Robbie Watt
Mamaku Renewables Limited

Per email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Robbie

Notice of Decisions on application for referral of the Mangapapa Wind Farm project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

This notice of decisions is for an application received from Mamaku Renewables Limited for referral of the Mangapapa Wind Farm project (project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) that has been accepted by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) under section 21 and referred under section 26.

The project description is for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a large-scale wind farm within land parcels of approximately 3,800 hectares on the Mamaku Plateau, located between State Highway 29, Pyes Pā Road (State Highway 36), and State Highway 5, between Tauranga and Rotorua, in the Bay of Plenty Region.

The project includes:

1. approximately 70 turbines (maximum tip height of 266 metres)
2. collector substations, internal roading, crane pads and turbine foundations, and both overhead and underground cabling, including grid connection infrastructure
3. on-site battery energy storage system
4. ancillary works include laydown areas, batching plants, vegetation clearance, earthworks, installation of culverts, associated water takes and discharges, operation and maintenance facilities to support the turbines and associated infrastructure
5. grid connection by 6km of dedicated transmission corridor to the Tarukenga–Kaitemako 220 kilovolts (kV) transmission line.

The project will require the proposed approvals:

- a. resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991 as described in section 42(4)(a) of the Act
6. approvals under the Wildlife Act 1953 as described in section 42(4)(h) of the Act

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7. an archaeological authority under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 as described in section 42(4)(i) of the Act
8. concessions under the Conservation Act 1987 as described in section 42(4)(e) of the Act.

The project can only be accepted if the Minister is satisfied the criteria in section 22 is met, which includes being satisfied the project is an infrastructure or development project that would have significant regional or national benefits and referring the project to the fast-track approvals process would facilitate the project, including by enabling it to be processed in a more timely and cost-effective way than under normal processes and is unlikely to materially affect the efficient operation of the fast-track approvals process.

Under section 21(3) of the Act, the Minister must decline a referral application if:

- the Minister is satisfied that the project does not meet the criteria in section 22
- the Minister is satisfied that the project involves an ineligible activity
- the Minister considers they do not have adequate information to inform the decision.

Additionally, the Minister has the discretion to decline a referral application for any other reason, even if the project meets the criteria outlined in section 22 of the Act.

Decision on referral application

The Minister has decided to accept the referral application for the whole project and is satisfied it meets the criteria in section 22 (s 21(1)(c)) and to refer the project to the fast-track approvals process under section 26(2)(a).

Reasons for accepting referral application

The Minister is satisfied the project:

- a. is an infrastructure or development project that would have significant regional or national benefits; and
- b. referring the project to the fast-track approvals process –
 - (i) would facilitate the project, including by enabling it to be processed in a more timely and cost-effective way than under normal processes; and
 - (ii) is unlikely to materially affect the efficient operation of the fast-track approvals process.

Specifically, the Minister is satisfied the project meets the criteria in section 22 of the Act as:

- a. the project involves the construction, operation and maintenance of a large-scale wind farm and associated electricity infrastructure that would have significant regional and regional benefits [section 22(1)(a)] because it:
 - (i) it will deliver new regionally or nationally significant infrastructure [section 22(1)(a)(ii)] by providing approximately 453.6 megawatts (MW) of renewable

- electricity generation capacity and generating approximately 1.39 terawatt hours (TWh) of electricity annually, enough to power around 196,000 households
- (ii) it will deliver significant economic benefits [section 22(2)(a)(iv)] by contributing approximately \$231.6 million to gross domestic product (GDP) and supporting an estimated 1,278 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs during construction, with direct and indirect ongoing operational benefits of approximately \$81.2 million in GDP per annum and approximately 250 FTE jobs
 - (iii) it will support climate change mitigation [section 22(2)(a)(vii)] by increasing renewable electricity generation, reducing reliance on fossil fuel-based energy sources annually and avoiding approximately 0.72 mega tonnes (Mt) CO₂ equivalent emissions per annum through the displacement of fossil fuel generation
- b. referring the project to the fast-track approvals process would facilitate the project [section 22(1)(b)(i)], including by enabling it to be processed in a more timely and cost-effective way than under normal processes because:
- (i) the scale and complexity of the project, and the potential for notification, hearings, and appeals under standard approval processes, could result in increased costs and longer approval timeframes
 - (ii) appeals under the Act are only to the High Court rather than the Environment Court and are limited to points of law
 - (iii) the Act precludes public and limited notification
- c. referring the project to the fast-track approvals process is unlikely to materially affect the efficient operation of the fast-track approvals process [section 22(1)(b)(ii)] because the project is neither novel in the New Zealand context nor beyond the scope of what a panel would typically assess where multiple approvals are sought under the fast-track process.

The Minister is satisfied there is no reason they must decline the project under section 21(3) of the Act.

Specified matters for accepted referral application

1. Mamaku Renewables Limited who lodged the referral application are specified as the person(s) authorised to lodge a substantive application for the project under section 27(2).
2. In relation to a substantive application for the project:
 - a. Under section 27(3)(b)(i) of the Act, a deadline of two years from the date of issue of this letter for lodging the substantive application.
 - b. Under section 27(3)(b)(ii) of the Act, the following information to be submitted with the substantive application:

- (i) evidence of additional consultation with the Department of Conservation to confirm the appropriate easement requirements for the concessions to be sought at the substantive stage
 - (ii) a Transport Assessment on effects on the State Highway network and NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi assets, including mitigation measures.
- c. The persons or groups from whom a panel must invite comments from in addition to any specified in section 53 – s27(3)(b)(iii):
 - (i) the Chief Executive of Transpower New Zealand Limited; and
 - (ii) the Chief Executive of NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi.

Other matters (section 28)

Pursuant to section 16(2)(c) of the Act, any panel considering a substantive application must:

- a. confirm with Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Western Bay of Plenty District Council that the operative regional policy statement, regional plan and district plan have recognised and provided for the Kaituna River Document under section 123 of the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014, or if that obligation has not been complied with in relation to any of those planning documents, have regard to the Kaituna River Document when considering relevant resource consent applications
- b. consider the consultation requirements set out in Te Kaitaka a Whakatauterangi Conservation Relationship Agreement when consulting with Tapuika Iwi Authority Trust in relation to any Wildlife Act 1953 authority required for the project.

If you have any queries about this notice of decisions, please email referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Antonia Croft or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 225 537).

Yours sincerely



Max Gander-Cooper

Acting Manager – Fast-track Operations

Appendix 1: Section 28 – Notice of Minister’s decision on accepted referral application

Section 28(1)(a) – The applicant	Mamaku Renewables Limited
Section 28(1)(ii) – Anyone invited to comment on the application	
<i>Relevant local authorities</i>	Western Bay of Plenty District Council Bay of Plenty Regional Council
<i>Relevant portfolio Ministers</i>	Minister for the Environment Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Minister for Māori Development Minister of Conservation Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Minister for Energy Minister of Climate Change
<i>Relevant administering agencies</i>	Department of Conservation Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
<i>The Māori groups under s17(d)</i>	Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Ranginui Settlement Trust Tapuika Iwi Authority Trust Te Tāhuhu o Tawakeheimoa Trust Te Maru o Ngāti Rangiwewehi Iwi Authority Raukawa Settlement Trust Ngāi Te Rangi Settlement Trust Ngā Pōtiki a Tamapahore Trust Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Te Rangi Iwi Trust Ngāi Tamarawaho Ngāti Hangarau Mangorewa Kaharoa Te Taumata Trust Te Maru o Kaituna / Kaituna River Authority
<i>Any other persons under s17(5)</i>	Chief Executive of Transpower New Zealand Limited Chief Executive of NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Minister for Regional Development Minister for Economic Growth
Section 28(2) – Other parties for an accepted referral application	
<i>The Panel Convener</i>	Including all the information received by the Minister as required by section 28(4).
<i>Any iwi authorities or Treaty settlement entities (other than those that must be notified as identified above) that the Minister considers have an interest in the matter</i>	No additional iwi authorities or Treaty settlement entities have been identified beyond those listed above.
<i>Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)</i>	Including all the information received by the Minister as required by section 28(4).
<i>Relevant administering agencies</i>	As identified above.