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## **MINUTE 1 OF THE EXPERT PANEL**

### **Project Overview Conference**

#### **State Highway 1 North Canterbury – Woodend Bypass Project (Belfast to Pegasus) [FTAA-2512-1157]**

**24 March 2026**

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[1] The purpose of this Minute is to confirm the time and the details for an in-person Briefing from the Applicant at a Project Overview Conference, and an Expert Panel site visit.

[2] The Briefing will be held on 14 April 2026 in person in Christchurch, with specific details to be resolved closer to the time.

[3] A site visit will be conducted that same day.

[4] The purpose of the Conference is to familiarise the Expert Panel with:

- (a) the content of the Substantive Application;
- (b) the key points of evidence (technical reports, assessments and other information) provided in support of the Application;
- (c) relevant legal tests and legal issues in contention;
- (d) the content and structure of proposed conditions, including management plans; and
- (e) other relevant matters.

[5] It is anticipated that the Briefing will be led by representatives of NZTA, along

with NZTA's legal counsel.

[6] Representatives of the following administering agencies will be invited to attend the Briefing:

- (a) Waimakariri District Council;
- (b) Canterbury Regional Council;
- (c) Department of Conservation; and
- (d) Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

[7] During the Briefing:

- (a) the Applicant will present a high-level overview of the Application;
- (b) the Expert Panel will invite the representatives of the administering agencies to highlight what they consider to be the principal matters of contention that the Expert Panel will need to address; and
- (c) the Expert Panel will address queries to the Applicant and administering agencies, noting that Panel members plan to have familiarised themselves with the Application documents by the time of the Briefing.

[8] The Expert Panel requests that the Applicant's following subject experts attend the Briefing, either in person or remotely (with the exception of the Applicant's planner who should attend in person):

- (a) Earthworks;
- (b) Hydrology;

- (c) Ecology; and
- (d) Planning and condition content

[9] The participants should note that, while the Expert Panel will be reasonably familiar with the Application documents, they may not have had an opportunity to consider matters in detail. There will be further opportunities in this process for that to occur.

[10] To facilitate the Application overview, the Applicant may wish to provide a short PowerPoint presentation, and to speak to it during the Briefing.

[11] In the interests of transparency, however, and to provide potential commenters with the same information as that provided to the Panel, the Briefing will be recorded and made available on the Fast-track website.

[12] Confirmation of attendances are to be filed by 3 April 2026.

[13] Further details for the Briefing session will be confirmed with the Applicant by Georgia Tremeer, Application Lead, who can be contacted at [info@fasttrack.govt.nz](mailto:info@fasttrack.govt.nz)



Rob van Voorthuysen

**Woodend Bypass Project Expert Panel Chair**