

**Comment to the Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Expert Panel
Fast-track Approvals Act 2025**

From: Kaimai Canoe Club

Re: Manawa Energy Limited – Application for Re-consenting of the Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme

Comment on drafting of conditions for recreational releases (Part B.04 - Appendix E, Clauses 9.6 and 9.7)

I am writing on behalf of the Kaimai Canoe Club to propose alternative drafting for the Recreational Releases (clauses 9.6 and 9.7 of B.04 – Appendix E – Proposed Consent Conditions).

We note that the updated consent condition 9.6 had deleted “for 6 hours” from the second paragraph and understand that may have been done to avoid the duplication with between 10am and 4pm which is 6 hours anyway. As an alternative, we propose the following:

“The recreational release must be made available by the consent holder for 6 hours, between 10am and 4pm (unless agreed otherwise), for up to a maximum of 26 days per annum.”

The recent experience of Cyclone Vaianu has brought to our attention that the condition does not directly address what is to be done when the consent holder wants to withhold a recreational release for safety or other reasons.

We were really happy with the outcome reached with Contact/Manawa Energy on this occasion (and others), but this has highlighted that there is no wording in the consent to address this situation. We propose including a further sentence in the clause to the effect:

“Where the consent holder cannot or does not provide a recreational release on an agreed date, they will work with the Kaimai Canoe Club to agree an alternative release date.”

Thank you for your consideration of these points.

Kaimai Canoe Club appreciates the retention of clauses 9.6 and 9.7 in the proposed consent conditions and respectfully request that the Expert Panel ensure these provisions remain in place to safeguard the future of recreation on the Wairoa River.

Ngā mihi nui,
Richard Lang

President, Kaimai Canoe Club