

Hon Mark Patterson

Minister for Rural Communities
Associate Minister of Agriculture
Associate Minister for Regional Development



REF: COR26-281/AM26-0936

Alex Mickelson
Application Lead
Fast-Track Team
By email: substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz

Dear Alex,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the FTAA-2605-1238 Barrytown Minerals Project application being considered under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, as part of my responsibilities as Minister for Rural Communities. My comments on this application are outlined below.

I am generally supportive of this application from Tāiko Critical Minerals Limited, as the project is anticipated to deliver significant regional benefits and will improve outcomes for rural communities by:

- generating significant economic benefits for the West Coast region; and
- creating 135 full-time equivalent direct jobs and support an estimated 189 additional jobs elsewhere in the economy.

I am interested to see the Expert Panel's deliberation on the feasibility of the applicants Rehabilitation Management Plan, as this has significant implications for the local community following the completion of mining at this site.

I understand that there is a mix of local views regarding this project. I am pleased to see the applicant has been engaging with the local community during this process and would encourage them to continue doing so.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. I look forward to learning about the outcome of this application in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Patterson'.

Hon Mark Patterson
Minister for Rural Communities