

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE #5 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Request of s 53 entities for further information by way of comment arising from extension of time granted to applicant, request of the Applicant for further information, and advice of appointment of avifauna expert –
The Point Solar Farm
[FTAA-2508-1100]

13 February 2026

Request of s 53 entities

[1] Reference is made to the Request for Information issued on 23 January 2026 (RFI) and Minute no 4 .

[2] That Minute was a response to an email from the Applicant of 27 January 2026 which was clarified in the site visit of 30 January 2026. The Applicant sought more time in which to undertake the quantitative surveys for vegetation, invertebrates and lizards referred to in the RFI, explaining that it was not practicable to complete the survey work by 9 February 2026.

[3] The Panel wished to have this further survey evidence, and the time for providing that information was extended to 23 February 2026.

[4] The Panel will benefit from comments from the s 53 entities on the further survey evidence as well as their comments filed in the usual way by 19 February 2026.

[5] The Panel therefore requests responses from the s 53 entities to the applicant's further survey evidence to be filed on 23 February 2026 by **5pm 27 February 2026**, which will be four working days after that further survey evidence is received.

[6] The Applicant is requested to reply to the s 53 responses by **5pm 3 March 2026**.

Request of applicant

[7] This minute records that the Panel has issued a request for further information under section 67 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 from the Applicant relating to the following matters:

- a) Mana Whenua Issues;
- b) Scope Issues;
- c) Matters relating to approvals sought under the Resource Management Act 1991;
- d) Matters relating to concessions sought under the Conservation Act 1987;
- e) Landscape Issues; and
- f) Ecological Issues.

[8] This information is requested to be provided by **5pm 23 February 2026**.

[9] The request and response when submitted will be available on the Fast-track website here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/the-point-solar-farm/reports-and-advice>.

Appointment of technical adviser

[10] The Panel has decided under clause 10(3) of the third schedule of the FTAA to appoint an independent senior avifauna expert to assist it.

[11] Any reports from such an expert will be distributed to the applicant and s 53 entities who will have an opportunity to comment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raynor Asher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hon Raynor Asher KC

The Point Solar Farm Expert Panel Chair