

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE #24 OF THE EXPERT PANEL

Invitation to comment Clause 5 of Schedule 6 of FTAA
The Point Solar Farm [FTAA-2509-1100]

14 August 2026

Invitation to Comment

[1] The application under consideration, The Point Solar Farm, includes an application for a concession under section 42(4)(e) of the Act. In accordance with section 53(2)(m)(ii) of the Act, where a concession is applied for the Panel must invite comments on the substantive application from persons listed in clause 5 of Schedule 6 of the Act. Those persons are:

- (a) the New Zealand Conservation Authority; and
- (b) relevant Conservation Boards; and
- (c) the New Zealand Fish and Game Council; and
- (d) the Game Animal Council.

[2] Due to an administrative error, those parties were not invited to comment. This minute seeks to correct that error by issuing an invitation to those persons now. Comments are therefore invited from:

- (a) the New Zealand Conservation Authority; and
- (b) Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board; and
- (c) the New Zealand Fish and Game Council; and
- (d) the Game Animal Council.

[3] The Panel directs the invitees to the substantive application:

<https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/the-point-solar-farm/substantive-application>

and the Department of Conservation's Report under section 51 of the Act:

<https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/the-point-solar-farm/reports-and-advice>

[4] We draw the invited parties' attention to the fact that the applicant has accepted the Department of Conservation's recommended conditions. See here in section 4.1:

https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/21645/FNSF-Response-RFI-23Feb2026-with-cover-letter-final_Redacted.pdf

The Panel will be particularly assisted by any comment on those conditions.

[5] Under section 54 of the Act, the invited parties have 20 working days to submit their comments, which, for this application, is no later than **11 September 2026**. Because of the timeframes, the Panel will be greatly assisted by a response from the four parties at an earlier date than 11 September 2026.

[6] Comments can be submitted to the EPA via the following methods:

- a) by email to substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz
- b) by post to Private Bag 63002, Wellington 6140 New Zealand; or
- c) in person to Stewart Dawson's Corner, 366 Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011.



Hon Raynor Asher KC
Haldon Solar Expert Panel Chair