
MINUTE 6 OF THE EXPERT PANEL
Suspension of Application under section 64 FTAA
Sunfield [FTAA-2503-1039]

(11 August 2025)

- [1] By Memorandum dated 8th August 2025, and in accordance with section 64(1) of the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 (**FTAA**), the Applicant's Agent made a written request to the EPA that the processing of the substantive application be suspended.
- [2] The suspension was sought to ensure that the Applicant has sufficient time to respond to the comments provided by invited parties under section 53 of the FTAA, and to allow the Applicant sufficient time to appropriately consider the recently lodged Notice of Requirement for Mill Road – Stage 2.
- [3] Pursuant to section 64(3), the Expert Panel (**Panel**) may, at its discretion, suspend the processing of the Application. Whilst the discretion is broadly framed, the Panel must nevertheless exercise its discretion in a principled way, including by reference to the purpose of the FTAA.
- [4] Having considered the reasons for the requested suspension, the Panel considers that granting the suspension sought is consistent with the purpose of the FTAA.
- [5] No timeframe was given for the requested suspension. However, pursuant to section 65 of the FTAA, the Applicant may request that the Panel resumes processing the application.

[6] If no such request is made with 50 working days of the date of suspension, then section 66 of the FTAA requires the Panel to decide whether to:

- a. Return the substantive application to the Applicant; or
- b. Resume processing the application.

[7] As a consequence of the request being made before the due date for the Applicant to respond to comments, the date by which comments are to be responded to will necessarily be extended. The precise date is unknown for the time-being, and will not crystallise unless or until the processing of the application resumes.

[8] In accordance with section 64 of the FTAA, the Panel grants the request to suspend processing the substantive application, effective from 8 August 2025. The Panel authorises the EPA to give notice of this decision to the Applicant, and all persons or groups invited to provide comment under section 53 of the FTAA.



Phillip Maw
Expert Panel Chair