
MINUTE 13 OF THE EXPERT PANEL
Memoranda from Applicant and Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou
Southern Link Inland Port FTAA-2604-1207
9 September 2026

[1] The purpose of this Minute is to record receipt of memoranda from Counsel for Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou¹ and the applicant regarding the Notice of Hearing for freshwater matters² and record further directions following a conference held on 8 September 2026.

[2] The conference was attended by representatives of the applicant, Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou, ORC, DCC and Fish and Game Otago at the request of the Panel.

[3] The applicant requested that invited participants to the freshwater hearing (other than the applicant) make their witness summary statements available by **4pm on Friday 11 September 2026** and that all opening statements/legal submissions are to be filed **by 4pm Monday 14th of September 2026** (rather than all being due on Monday 14th September 2026, at midday).

[4] The applicant's witness summary statements are still to be provided by 5pm on Thursday 10th September 2026.

[5] There was general agreement from the invited participants to this requested change. We amend the directions accordingly.

[6] Invited participants in the freshwater hearing are to serve their witness

¹ Memorandum of Counsel Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou, 4 September 2026

² Memorandum of Counsel for the applicant, 8 September 2026.

summary statements, opening statements/legal submissions on the applicant (Sarah.Scott@simpsongrierson.com) and the other invited participant's representatives at the same time as they are due to be sent to the EPA.

[7] The Panel confirmed that Mr Oakley is not required for the freshwater hearing.

[8] The applicant has received comments from Mr and Mrs Stewart and will respond as directed in Minute 12.

[9] Counsel for Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou confirmed that her client will not pursue a FTAA, s7 argument for this application and will not call any additional evidence on freshwater matters. The Panel requested that Dr Tipa be available to answer questions from the Panel regarding the TIA. Counsel is to seek instructions regarding Dr Tipa's availability and advise the Panel by 4pm on Friday 11 September 2026 along with a final update on the position of Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou.



Cindy Robinson
Expert Panel Chair