

Referral application form to use for the fast-track process

Under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

About this referral application

This referral application form has been [approved](#) by the Secretary for the Environment in accordance with the [fast-track approvals process](#) of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act). All referral applications under the Act must be submitted using this form.

We recommend you discuss your referral application and the information requirements with us before you lodge the referral application. Please contact the Fast-track support team on 0800 327 875 or email info@fasttrack.govt.nz

Please provide a general level of detail in your application; sufficient to inform the Minister's decision on the referral application.

You must use this form to apply for referral applications and complete all relevant fields, even where you provide supporting attachments that are more detailed. Include attachment or appendix numbers in the relevant fields and list the attachments in section 5 of this form.

If the required information and relevant supporting material is not provided, the application will be returned to you as incomplete.

If your application is determined to be complete, and the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) considers that your project may be capable of satisfying the assessment criteria and does not appear to involve an ineligible activity, and you have paid all related fees, charges and/or levies, then we will provide it to the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister).

Unless the Minister decides to decline the application before doing so, the Minister will invite comments on the application from relevant local authorities, Ministers, [administering agencies](#), identified Māori groups, owners of Māori land in the project area and any other person the Minister decides is appropriate. The Minister may also request further information from you, the relevant local authorities, or relevant administering agencies before making a decision on the referral application.

If the Minister accepts your referral application, then you may lodge a substantive application with the EPA and the substantive application may be considered by a decision-making panel.

Application fees and Cost recovery

Under the [Fast-track Approvals \(Cost Recovery\) Regulations 2025](#) (the Regulations), applicants lodging a referral application are required to pay a fee (deposit) of \$12,000 (plus GST), and a levy of \$6,700 (plus GST) to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The fees are set in [Schedule 1 of the Regulations](#). These fees must be paid before lodgement of your referral application. If the required amount is not paid the application will be returned as incomplete.

Please note the final costs payable at the referral stage may exceed the referral application fee (deposit) paid. More information about cost recovery under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 is available from [Fast-track approvals cost recovery process](#).

Submitting your application

You will need to submit this form through our digital Fast-track portal. You will need to receive a link to register/access the portal.

If you need any help with the form, you can call or email us:

- 0800 327 875 (0800 FASTRK) (from within New Zealand)
- email: info@fasttrack.govt.nz

Ways you can send your completed form to us

By digital portal – you will need to receive a link to register/access: [Fast-track website](#)

By email – info@fasttrack.govt.nz

Your personal information

The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) is collecting your personal information for the purpose of administering your referral application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024. We will only use the information for the purposes of contacting you in relation to this application.

MfE may provide your application, or details from your application to other agencies or local authorities for the purpose of administering your referral application. If your application is accepted as complete and progresses through the referral process, the Minister may consult with other agencies and groups on your application. This will require the Minister to share the details of your application with the EPA, the Panel Convener, and those groups.

We will store your personal information securely. You have the right to access the personal information we hold about you and to ask for it to be corrected if it is wrong. If you would

like to access your personal information, or have it corrected, please contact us at referrals@fasttrack.govt.nz

Official information

All information you provide with this application is subject to the Official Information Act 1982 and may be released in accordance with that Act.

Publishing your application

We intend to publish your referral application on the Fast-track Approvals website.

Any personal contact details in application documents will not be made publicly available. Please provide a copy of the application with all personal contact details redacted.

MfE may also redact certain information from publication in accordance with the Official Information Act 1992. If you think your application contains information which should be withheld, please clearly identify it and provide an explanation as to why it should be withheld.

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Section 1: Applicant details

A person or persons may apply to use the fast-track process for a project. Where there is more than one person, the referral application must be lodged jointly by all of the persons who are proposed to be authorised persons for the project.

If the referral application is accepted and referred by the Minister, the person or persons who lodged the referral application will be specified as the person who is, or the persons who are, authorised to lodge a substantive application for the project.

1.1 Applicant(s) – repeat for all applicants

1.1.1 Organisation name: Mamaku Renewables Limited

1.1.2 NZBN (optional): 9429051390303

1.1.3 Contact name: Robbie Watt

1.1.4 Phone: s 9(2)(a)

1.1.5 Email address: s 9(2)(a)

1.1.6 Postal address (if preferred method of contact):

Additional Applicants: Mamaku Renewables Limited

1.2 Agent acting on behalf of applicant (if applicable)

1.2.1 Organisation name: Anderson Lloyd

1.2.2 Contact name: Alex Booker

1.2.3 Phone: s 9(2)(a)

1.2.4 Email address: s 9(2)(a)

1.2.5 Postal address (if preferred method of contact):

1.3 Finance – Agent acting on behalf of applicant (if applicable)

1.3.1 Organisation name: Mamaku Renewables Limited

1.3.2 Contact name: Robbie Watt

1.3.3 Phone: s 9(2)(a)

1.3.4 Email address: s 9(2)(a)

1.3.5 Postal address (if preferred method of contact): s 9(2)(a)

If you are making this application on behalf of the applicant, please attach evidence that you are authorised to make this application.

1.3.6 Please direct all correspondence relating to this application (including correspondence from MfE) to:

If selecting Applicant and there is more than 1 person who lodged the referral application, please identify 1 person to receive all correspondence on behalf of all applicants.

1.4.1 Compliance and enforcement history – repeat for all applicants

1.4.1 Have there been any compliance or enforcement actions taken against the applicant (or if the referral application is lodged by more than one person, any of those persons) under a specified Act definition for either ‘compliance’ or ‘enforcement’?

No

1.4.2 If you answered yes above, please provide a summary of the relevant legislation and provisions, and any compliance or enforcement actions, and

the outcome of those actions taken under the [specified Act](#) against the applicant or applicants, if the referral is being lodged jointly.

Section 2: Referral application summary

2.1 Project name

This is the name by which the project will be known publicly. For example - avoid using street addresses, place names, company names.

Mangapapa Wind Farm

2.2 Project description and location

2.2.1 Provide a description of the project and the activities it involves

The project description helps us with inviting comments from relevant parties on the application, and publishing information about the application.

The Project is proposed on a modified plateau of farmland and plantation forestry land between State Highway 29, Pyes Pā Road (SH36), and State Highway 5. The Project Site avoids development in the Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park and within Significant Ecological Areas, while offering excellent wind resource and relying on existing easements for transmission lines.

The development includes:

- Up to 70 turbines with a maximum tip height of 266m;
- Substations and an on-site battery energy storage facility;
- Internal roading, crane pads, and turbine foundations;
- Cabling (overhead and underground) and transmission connection to the Tarukenga-Kaitemako 220 kV double circuit line; and
- Ancillary works including temporary laydown areas, batching plants, water takes, and vegetation clearance.

The Project involves construction and operation of turbines, access roads, substations, cabling, a battery facility, and ancillary construction activities including laydown areas, batching facilities, vegetation clearance, earthworks, and water takes.

Grid connection will be achieved through the Tarukenga to Kaitemako 220 kV double circuit line, which has confirmed capacity of approximately 450 MW, and approval for the connection has been provided by Transpower.

The Project will involve sourcing of sand, gravel, and cement products within the Region at the time of construction for turbine foundations and component haul routes, economically supporting primary industries involved in quarrying and producing these materials.

The Project was originally sought to be included in Schedule 2 of the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024. Significant additional work has been completed since this application with environmental survey work continuing, and feedback from that process (securing land owner agreements and transmission routes, and understanding treaty matters) addressed. A copy of that application along with its attachments can be found here: <https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/acts/fast-track-approvals/fast-track-projects/mangapapa-wind-farm/>

2.2.2 Provide a description or map of the whole project area that identifies its boundaries in sufficient detail to enable consideration of the referral application.

For example, site address(es), certificate of title(s), shape files

The Project is located on the properties between State Highway 29, Pyes Pā Road (SH36), and State Highway 5, and connecting with the grid off Te Matai Road. Copies of the relevant Certificates of Title are included as Attachment 1 to this referral application.

The Project Site and the specific elements of the Project, such as the turbines, transmission corridors, substations and grid connection point are also identified on plans included as part of the referral application at Attachment 2.

2.3 Ineligible activity

Your referral application must demonstrate that the project does not involve any ineligible activities as defined in [Section 5](#) of the Act. Please consider each ineligible activity below and where relevant, provide the requested details.

*When providing your response below, where possible, **provide details of any parties involved, the extent of their holding and the activity relevant to their area.***

Where a project involves an activity that may be the subject of a determination under sections [23](#) or [24](#), and you are intending to seek a Ministerial determination for that activity under either section, you must still complete this section in full. Determinations under, and information required in respect of, sections 23 and 24 are covered further under 2.5

Ministerial determinations under sections 23 and 24.

If your application relates to certain mining activities below the surface of the land and meets the other relevant criteria under [section 5\(2\)](#) of the Act then an agreement under [section 5\(1\)\(a\), \(b\), \(j\) or \(k\)](#) may not be required. This should be identified under the relevant questions below, and you must provide the additional information required in respect of [section 5\(2\)](#) under 2.3 Ineligible activity.

2.3.1 Does the project include an activity that would occur on identified [Māori land](#) as defined in section 4 of the Act?

No

a. If yes, please address the following:

- i. identify the land involved and the owner(s) of the land.
- ii. Confirm that the activity on the land has been agreed with the owners of the land and provide evidence of the written agreement; or
 - A. advise whether it is proposed to seek a determination under [section 23](#) and provide the information under 2.5 Ministerial determinations under sections 23 and 24 below; or
 - B. advise whether it is proposed to rely on [section 5\(2\)](#) of the Act and provide the information under 2.3 Ineligible activity below.

2.3.2 Does the project involve an activity that would occur in a customary marine title area?

No

a. Address the following:

- i. Identify the relevant customary marine title area, who the customary marine title group is;
- ii. Provide evidence that written agreement has been obtained from the customary marine title group and provide a copy of the same; **or**
 - A. advise whether it is proposed to rely on [section 5\(2\)](#) of the Act and provide the information under 2.3 Ineligible activity below.

2.3.3 Does the project involve an activity that would occur in a protected customary rights area?

No

a. Address the following:

- i. Identify the protected customary rights area, the group who holds these rights and the nature of the protected customary right(s)
- ii. Explain your proposed activity and identify whether you consider that it would have a less than minor adverse effect on the exercise of the protected customary right(s), and briefly explain why; **or**
- iii. Advise whether you consider that your proposed activity would have a more than minor effect on the exercise of the protected customary right(s), and if so, confirm that the activity has been agreed to in writing by the protected customary rights group and provide a copy of that agreement.

2.3.4 Does the project involve an activity that would occur on:
Māori customary land; OR land set apart as a Māori reservation as defined in section 4 of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

No

2.3.5 Does the project involve an aquaculture activity or an activity that is incompatible with aquaculture activities that would occur within an aquaculture settlement area (under section 12 of the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004); or an area reserved under another Treaty settlement for the aquaculture activities of a particular group?

No

2.3.6 Provide details of the aquaculture activity or the activity that is incompatible with aquaculture and the location

2.3.7 Provide details of the relevant aquaculture settlement area or Treaty settlement legislation reserving space for aquaculture and include details of the impacted parties or particular group.

2.3.8 Provide details on whether or not the applicant is authorised to apply for a coastal permit within the aquaculture settlement area, or area reserved under another Treaty settlement for aquaculture activities, including a copy of any such authorisation.

2.3.9 Does the project include an activity that would require an access arrangement under [section 61](#) or [61B](#) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991?

No

a. Provide the following information:

- i. what is the activity that would require the access arrangement; and
- ii. does the project include an activity that would occur on Crown owned land or internal waters and land of the common marine and coastal area described in Schedule 4 of that Act and provide details of the same.
- iii. If so describe how the activity meets the criteria in [section 61\(1A\)](#)(a-e) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991; **or**
- iv. Confirm and provide evidence that the project would not occur in an area for which a permit cannot be granted under that Act:

2.3.10 Does the project include an activity that would be prevented under any of sections [165J](#), [165M](#), [165Q](#), [165ZC](#), or [165ZDB](#) (regarding the management of occupation in common marine and coastal area) of the Resource Management Act 1991?

No

2.3.11 Provide details about which section the project does not comply with and, if relevant, the provisions of the regional coastal plan that are applicable.

2.3.12 Does the project include an activity (other than an activity that would require an access arrangement under the Crown Minerals Act 1991) that would occur on land that is listed in Schedule 4 of this Act?

No

a. Provide the following:

- i. identify the activity and which clause under Schedule 4 is applicable; and
- ii. confirm whether you are seeking that the Minister make a determination under [section 24](#), and if so, whether the determination sought relates to existing electricity infrastructure or new electricity lines and provide the information under 2.5 Ministerial determinations under sections 23 and 24 below.

2.3.13 Does the project involve an activity that would occur on a national reserve held under the Reserves Act 1977 and requires approval under that Act?

No

a. Address the following:

- i. identify the activity and type of national reserve under the Reserves Act
- ii. identify what approval(s) would be required under the Reserves Act.

- iii. Confirm whether you are seeking that the Minister make a determination under [section 24](#) and if so whether the determination sought relates to existing electricity infrastructure or new electricity lines.? If so, provide the information under 2.5 Ministerial determinations under sections 23 and 24 below

2.3.14 Does the project involve an activity that would occur on a reserve held under the Reserves Act 1977 that is vested in someone other than the Crown or a local authority?

No

- a. Address the following:
 - i. identify the activity, the reserve type under the Reserves Act, and the person in whom it is vested.
 - ii. provide evidence that written agreement has been obtained from the person in whom the reserve is vested and provide a copy of the same; or
 - iii. advise whether it is proposed to rely on [section 5\(2\)](#) of the Act and provide the information under 2.3 Ineligible activity below.

2.3.15 Does the project involve an activity that would occur on a reserve held under the Reserves Act 1977 that is managed by someone other than the Department of Conservation or a local authority?

No

- a. Address the following:
 - i. identify the activity, the reserve type under the Reserves Act, and the person or body who manages the reserve.
 - ii. Provide evidence that written agreement has been obtained from the person or body responsible for managing the reserve and provide a copy of the same; **or**
 - iii. advise whether it is proposed to rely on [section 5\(2\)](#) of the Act and provide the information under 2.3 Ineligible activity below; **or**
 - iv. advise whether you consider the activity falls within the scope of [section 5\(5\)](#) of the Act, and provide the information under 2.3 Ineligible activity below.

2.3.16 Does the project involve an activity that is:

- a. a prohibited activity under the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012 or regulations made under that Act?

- b. described in [section 15B](#) (Discharge of harmful substances from ships or offshore installations) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is a prohibited activity under that Act or regulations made under it;
No
- c. prohibited by [section 15C](#) (Prohibitions in relation to radioactive waste or other radioactive matter and other waste in coastal marine area) of the Resource Management Act 1991
No

2.3.17 Does the project involve a decommissioning-related activity as described in section 38(3) of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012:
No

2.3.18 Does the project involve an activity undertaken for the purposes of an offshore renewable energy project?
No

2.4 Exemptions from requirement to provide agreement

2.4.1 Mining activities under section 5(2)

The agreement of the relevant groups referred to under 3.5 Persons affected is not required for certain mining activities under [section 5\(2\)](#). If you think this might apply to your application, answer the questions below.

2.4.1.2 Is your application for an activity that is prospecting, exploration, mining or mining operations of Crown-owned minerals undertaken below the surface of any land or area?

No

2.4.1.3 Provide details of the activity and identify the owner and occupier of the land and any relevant details concerning the land or area (such as whether it is identified Māori land)

2.4.1.4 Explain the extent, if any to which your activity may be likely to cause any damage to the surface of the land or any loss or damage to the owner or occupier of the land.

2.4.1.5 Explain the extent, if any to which your activity will be likely to have any prejudicial effect in respect of the use and enjoyment of the land by the owner or occupier of the land.

2.4.1.6 Explain the extent, if any to which your activity will be likely to have any prejudicial effect in respect of any possible future use of the surface of the land, and if no such effects are anticipated, please explain why.

2.4.2 Activities on land proposed to be the subject of a land exchange

The agreement of relevant groups referred to in (subsection 5(1)(a) of the Act) is not required if section 5(5) applies. If you consider this section may be relevant to your application, complete the below.

2.4.2.1 Is the reserve on which the activity is to occur proposed to be the subject of a land exchange?

N/A

2.4.2.2 Is the reserve a Crown-owned reserve?

2.4.2.3 Are the person or persons responsible for managing the reserve in place because of a Treaty settlement?

2.4.2.4 Provide any supporting details which may be relevant for your responses to the above questions.

2.5 Ministerial determinations under sections 23 and 24

Complete this section if you are wish to seek a ministerial determination under section 23 or section 24 that your project is not an ineligible activity.

2.5.1 Determination in relation to linear infrastructure on Māori land under section 23

2.5.1.1 Is your application seeking a determination under [section 23](#) (linear infrastructure on certain identified Māori land)

No

Provide the following information:

2.5.1.2 Confirmation that the activity is the construction of electricity lines or land transport infrastructure (and identify which it is)

2.5.1.3 Confirmation that the above construction (or operation of) will be undertaken by a network utility operator that is a requiring authority, and that that same party is the applicant for the necessary approvals, providing details of the same.

2.5.1.4 Confirmation that the activity would occur on identified Māori land that is Māori freehold land or General land owned by Māori that was previously Māori freehold land (and identify that land)

2.5.1.5 Provide information on the rights and interests of Māori in that land

2.5.1.6 Provide an assessment of the effects of the activity on those Māori rights and interests and on the relevant land.

2.5.2 Determination in relation to existing electricity infrastructure under section 24(2)

2.5.2.1 Is your application seeking a Ministerial determination under [section 24\(2\)](#) (in relation to maintenance, upgrading, or continued operation of existing electricity infrastructure on certain Schedule 4 land or in a national reserve)

No

Provide the following information:

2.5.2.2 Confirmation that the activity is the maintenance, upgrading, or continued operation of existing electricity infrastructure.

2.5.2.3 Confirmation that the activity would occur on eligible land, as defined in section 24(3).

2.5.2.4 Advise whether the activity would materially increase the scale or adverse effects of the existing electricity infrastructure and provide an explanation of the same.

2.5.3 Determination in relation to new electricity lines under section 24(4)

2.5.3.1 Is your application seeking a determination under [section 24](#) (the construction and operation of new electricity lines on eligible land (as defined in [schedule 4](#) excluding land classified as a national park or listed in subsections 2, 4, 5(a), 7 or 8 of that schedule)?

No

Provide the following information:

2.5.3.2 Is the activity the construction and operation of new electricity lines? (provide any necessary details)

Would the activity occur on eligible land (and identify which category of eligible land);

2.5.3.3 Provide the requested information for each alternative site considered for the construction and operation of the new electricity lines:

2.5.3.4 A description of the alternative site.

2.5.3.5 A statement of the anticipated and known financial cost of undertaking the activity on the alternative site.

2.5.3.6 A description of the anticipated and known adverse effects of undertaking the activity on the alternative site.

2.5.3.7 A description of the anticipated and known financial cost and practicality of available measures to avoid, remedy, mitigate, offset, or compensate for the anticipated and known adverse effects of the activity on the alternative site.

2.5.3.8 A description of any issues (including financial cost) that would make it impractical to undertake the activity on the alternative site.

2.5.3.9 An assessment of whether it would be reasonable and practical to undertake the activity on the alternative site, considering the matters referred to above.

2.6 Appropriateness for fast-track approvals process

Here you must explain how the project meets the referral application criteria ([section 22](#)). Please consider and respond where relevant, to each question.

If the project is planned to proceed in stages, you must explain how each stage meets the referral application criteria.

If a part of the project is proposed as an alternative project, you must explain how each stage meets the referral application criteria,

- 2.6.1** The criteria for accepting a referral application is that the project is an infrastructure or development project that would have significant regional or national benefits. Explain how this project satisfies the criteria:

The Project will deliver nationally and regionally significant infrastructure that will increase renewable energy supply in New Zealand, support climate change mitigation and provide greater electricity generation in New Zealand. This Project will bring significant national and regional benefits. The national and regional benefits of the Project have been assessed by Urban Economics. A copy of the economic assessment is provided at Attachment 3 to this referral application.

National Benefits

The Project is consistent with the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation 2011 (amended in December 2025) which seeks to enable and support the development of renewable electric generation. There is a need for an increase in electricity generation across New Zealand to support the growing demand for electricity and to diversify the supply network for future proofing purposes.

The Project supports a low emissions future in New Zealand and directly contributes to national climate change mitigation and electrification targets that have been set. It directly satisfies a shortfall in electricity, through wind

generation, that can fill electricity deficits when hydro and solar electricity generation are unable to produce electricity, which provides improved energy security during period of high demand.

The Project is anticipated to contribute significantly; in the order of s 9(2)(b)(ii) in capital investment, with approximately s 9(2)(b)(ii) within New Zealand as a result of construction and operation.

Regional Benefits

The construction of the Project is expected to result in a significant number of full time equivalent (FTE) jobs, including 1278 FTE during construction and 250 FTE for operation of the Project per annum.

The Project will support local procurement and economic activity. It has the benefit of long-term landowner partnerships and opportunities for iwi participation and investment.

Overall, the economics assessment concludes that the Project will constitute nationally significant infrastructure, delivering long term economic benefits through increased electricity supply, reduced emissions, improved energy security, and sustained economic activity during both construction and operation.

2.6.2 Explain how referring the project to the fast-track approvals process:

2.6.2.1 Would facilitate the project, including by enabling it to be processed in a more timely and cost-effective way than under normal processes; and

The FTAA process will enable the Project to be approved and ready for construction in a more timely and efficient way than under the standard processes. The Project requires approvals under the RMA, NZHPT, and the Wildlife Act, and would benefit from a process where there is one consolidated decision rather than multiple decisions under different regimes. Historically, projects of this nature have taken at least 18 months to obtain just the necessary RMA consents from councils, and those processes have then been subject to further delay due to the possibility of Environment Court appeals.

The Applicant anticipates this will directly support earlier delivery of renewable energy generation capacity, regional employment, and New Zealand's decarbonisation targets.

The Project is an eligible activity that will provide significant national and regional benefits. The referral of this Project will not materially affect the efficient operation of the fast track approvals process. The Project is supported by expert assessments that will enable the Hearings Panel to

efficiently assess the application and make decisions on the approvals sought. This type of project (i.e. a wind farm) is one that has previously been considered by Fast-track Panels, its type of effects (and the types of appropriate consent conditions) are well known and able to be managed through design.

2.6.2.2 Is unlikely to materially affect the efficient operation of the fast-track approvals process

2.6.2.3 Has the project been identified as a priority project in a central government, local government, or sector plan or strategy (for example, in a general policy statement or spatial strategy), or a central government infrastructure priority list?

For example – a sector plan that specifically identifies the project including details such as location.

No

a. Identify the plan, strategy or list (or any other relevant document).

2.6.2.4 Will the project deliver new regionally or nationally significant infrastructure or enable the continued functioning of existing regionally or nationally significant infrastructure?

Yes

a. Explain how the project will deliver this.

The Project will deliver new regionally and nationally significant infrastructure. The proposed 450 MW Windfarm is expected to generate 1.39 TWh of electricity per year, based on a s 9(2)(b)(i) capacity factor. This is 3.5% of the New Zealand's current national electricity demand, which represents a material addition to national generation capacity. In a system facing structurally rising demand, tightening winter margins, declining domestic gas production and prospective LNG import dependence, a single project of this scale is material.

New Zealand will require three times more wind generation by 2050 to meet the most conservative demand estimates, MBIE's 2024 Electricity Demand and Generation Scenarios project sees electricity demand rising from 40.2 TWh to 71.7 TWh by 2050 in the higher-growth case. The Ministry for the Environment's Second Emissions Reduction Plan 2026-2030 (Amended January 2026) states that energy emissions are 37% of New Zealand's gross emissions and that energy-sector reductions are expected to come mainly from increased electrification. The Project aligns directly with those system and policy needs.

The Project is significant because it simultaneously addresses four national problems:

- It adds a large block of new renewable generation into the upper North Island,

- it reduces the need for thermal generation during tight system periods,
- it reduces reliance on gas and LNG for electricity security, and
- it injects material capital investment into the national and Bay of Plenty economies.

Transpower's 2025 Security of Supply Assessment notes that high winter energy demand forecast exceeds the prior year's forecast from 2031 to 2034. That matters because winter energy risk is exactly where additional North Island renewable generation has the greatest system value. The Project's location between Rotorua and Tauranga strengthens its value relative to more remote projects because it is closer to the upper North Island load corridor and therefore better placed to support reliability where it is most needed. The Project will also provide security of supply.

The Bay of Plenty RPS identifies the project as Regionally Significant Infrastructure.

2.6.2.5 Will the project increase the supply of housing, address housing needs, or contribute to a well-functioning urban environment (within the meaning of policy 1 of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020). If yes, explain how the project will achieve this.

The Project will not increase the supply of housing or address housing needs. Through the provision of electricity to households, it will indirectly support housing and a well-functioning urban environment.

2.6.2.6 Will the project deliver significant economic benefits, and if so, how?

The Project will deliver significant national, regional, and local economic benefits. These have been assessed by Urban Economics and include:

- a substantial capital investment of $\$9(2)(b)(ii)$, with approximately $\$9(2)(b)(ii)$ in New Zealand.
- a contribution (directly and indirectly) of \$81.2 million in GDP per annum.
- a contribution of \$77.2 million to GDP per annum over a 3 year construction period, equivalent to 0.3% of the Bay of Plenty Regional GDP.
- a significant increase in regional economic activity, supporting local employment, supply chains, and associated business demand.
- a material addition to the national generation capacity, of approximately 3.5% of New Zealand's annual electricity demand.
- a material reduction in gas demand at the system level, being an offset of 9-10 PJ of natural gas annually, equivalent to around 7.7% to 8.5% of New Zealand's total gas supply.

- a contribution to New Zealand's low emissions economy and meeting the growing demand for electricity. The Project is expected to deliver approximately 450 MW of new renewable electricity capacity.
- a number of employment opportunities: during construction it is estimated that a total of 1278 FTE employees would be required, and during operation it is estimated that a total of 250 FTE employees would be necessary.
- a significant increase in renewable generated energy output from the Bay of Plenty Region, strengthening the Region's position in the renewable energy industry.

A copy of the economic assessment prepared by Urban Economics Limited is included as Attachment 3 to this referral application.

2.6.2.7 Will the project support primary industries, including aquaculture, and if so, how?

The Project will not prevent the existing primary uses (forestry, carbon farming and dry-stock grazing) across the Project Site from continuing following construction and therefore is indirectly supportive of primary industry.

The Project will also involve sourcing of sand, gravel, and cement products within the Bay of Plenty region at the time of construction for turbine foundations and component haul routes, economically supporting primary industries involved in quarrying and producing these materials.

2.6.2.8 Will the project support development of natural resources, including minerals and petroleum, and if so, how?

The Project Site sits along the Mamaku Plateau and is a class 1 site which produces a high average wind speed. The Project will utilise this wind, a naturally renewable resource, to create electricity.

2.6.2.9 Will the project support climate change mitigation, including the reduction or removal of greenhouse gas emissions, and if so, how?

New Zealand has an all-of-Government framework which drives climate change policy towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilient. The framework supports New Zealand's commitments under the Paris Agreement, including reducing emissions by 30% below 2005 gross emissions (or 11% below 1990 emissions) for the period between 2021 and 2030.

The key benefits of the Project related to climate change mitigation and reduction of greenhouse gases includes:

- The Project will enable the further electrification of sectors and activities that are currently dependant on fossil fuel combustion.
- Given the location of the Project in the Southern extent of the Kaimai Mamaku Ranges, the establishment of additional wind generation capacity at a Class 1 site will prove significantly valuable for New Zealand in order to meet its broader decarbonisation commitments. The location of the Project in the region equates to a gross capacity factor of 40% which is consistent with the long-run average at the national scale.

The Project will contribute to the mitigation and/or offset of greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to the acceleration, frequency and severity of natural hazards caused by climate change.

- 2.6.2.10** Will the project support climate change adaptation, reduce risks arising from natural hazards, or support recovery from events caused by natural hazards, and if so, how?

Wind farms contribute to the overall resilience of New Zealand's infrastructure system. Solar, wind, and hydro are each reliant on different naturally renewable resources. By diversifying electricity production through significantly adding to the existing renewables contribution to the Region and New Zealand, energy resilience is improved and reliance on fossil fuels is reduced. Wind generation can fill gaps in electricity generation when hydro lakes are low, or the sun does not shine. This directly supports climate change adaptation.

- 2.6.2.11** Will the project address significant environmental issues, and if so, how?

It will materially contribute to the supply of renewable energy in New Zealand. The increase in renewable energy generation in New Zealand is required to meet the growing demand for electricity across the country, but particularly in the BOPRC where housing development is rapidly increasing, rather than utilising additional fossil fuel generation. The Project will also support the reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions and decarbonisation of the electricity system in support of New Zealand's Climate Change obligations and policies.

- 2.6.2.12** Is the project consistent with local or regional planning documents, including spatial strategies, and if so, how?

The Project is consistent with regional and local planning documents that recognise the importance of renewable energy development, climate change mitigation, and regionally significant infrastructure.

At a regional level, the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement (RPS)

identifies renewable electricity generation as nationally and regionally significant infrastructure. The construction and development of the Project would contribute to the secure and efficient supply of energy in the region and is consistent with the RPS.

The Project supports:

- Objective 5 provides for energy efficiency and conservation by promoting the use and development of renewable energy sources.
- Objective 6 recognises the social, cultural, environmental, and economic benefits of, and the use and development of nationally and regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy.
- Policy EI 1B actively promotes the use and development of renewable electricity sources for electricity generation purposes and the transmission of electricity generated from renewable energy sources from its point of generation to the point of demand.
- Policy EI 4B provides support for national and regional plans and strategies that recognise and provide for the social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy, including national policy statements, national and regional energy and economic strategies.
- Policy EI 5B gives priority to managing adverse effects of regionally significant infrastructure on matters of national importance, while recognising that in some circumstances avoidance of adverse effects may not be practicable and it may be more appropriate for the new or upgraded regionally significant infrastructure to occur in areas where these values could be compromised.

At a district level, the Western Bay of Plenty District Plan provides for renewable electricity generation in the rural zone, where the Project is located, where there is a legitimate functional and operational need – as is the case here.

The Project aligns with:

- Objective 10.2.1(2) recognises that infrastructure and network utility systems and services provide both direct and indirect local, sub-regional and national benefits (social, economic, cultural and environmental)
- Objective 10.2.1.(8) encourages the sustainable utilisation and management of the district's natural and physical resource for electricity generation and associated critical infrastructure whilst ensuring that adverse effects are avoided, remedied, or mitigated.
- Objective 10.2.1(11) provides for the establishment of infrastructure associated with electricity generation and transmission

of renewable energy where the actual or potential adverse effects on identified significant features, and other ecological, cultural and amenity values can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.

- Policy 10.2.2(3) outlines that, where infrastructure or network utilities have a functional, locational, technical or operational need for a particular location, such facilities should, as far as practicable, be located and designed so as to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects.
- Policy 10.2.2(7) recognises the opportunity for electricity generation from the district's natural and physical resources, particularly those of a renewable nature while avoiding, remedying and mitigating environmental effects.
- Objective 18.2.1(1), (3), (5): the retention of rural production while enabling non-rural activities with a functional need to be located on rural land, such as wind farms.
- Policies 18.2.2(1, (10, (12) and (15) provide the use and development of versatile land shall retain the productive use rural potential, while providing for non-rural activities where it has a functional or legitimate need, and ensuring adequate roading and infrastructure is provided to service it.

At the sub-regional level, the SmartGrowth Strategy 2023–2073 is a spatial plan which identifies electricity infrastructure as a key enabler of urban and business growth. As Tauranga and the wider Western Bay of Plenty face significant population growth and increasing demand for housing and employment land, the delivery of secure renewable energy will underpin sustainable growth, increase capacity and reliability of power supply and enable the reduction of greenhouse gases.

Section 3: Project details

Remember: at this stage only a general level of detail is required, enough to inform eligibility to use the fast-track approvals process.

For construction activities, please state the anticipated commencement and completion dates.

The timing of construction of the Project is dependent on a range of factors, including the timing of obtaining the necessary approvals for the Project being obtained under the FTAA.

The indicative programme for the Project is:

- All approvals obtained: 2026 - 2027
- Site earthworks and access road establishment: 2027 – 2029

- Construction: 2027-2029
- Turbine foundations, cabling and substations: 2027 – 2029
- Turbine installation and commissioning: 2028 – 2030

Operational phase commencement: 2030 onwards

3.1 Approvals required

Applications must specify all of the proposed approvals sought but only need to provide a general level of detail about each proposed approval, sufficient to inform the Minister's decision on the referral application.

For each proposed approval an applicant must be eligible to apply for any corresponding approval under a specified Act. For example, if an approval is for a notice of requirement under the RMA, the applicant for that approval would need to be a requiring authority.

Applications for approvals under a specified Act, as required by in [section 13\(4\)\(y\)](#), are covered below in 3.8 Specific proposed approvals.

3.1.1 Outline the approvals sought under the Resource Management Act 1991.

All necessary approvals, including land use consents, earthworks consents, water permits and discharge permits.

3.1.2 Outline the approvals sought under the Conservation Act 1987

N/A

3.1.3 Outline the approvals sought under the Reserves Act 1977

N/A

3.1.4 Outline the approvals sought under the Wildlife Act 1953

Approval is sought for management of lizards, birds, and bats (if required), and any other protected wildlife.

3.1.5 Outline the approvals sought under the National Parks Act 1980

N/A

3.1.6 Outline the approvals sought under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

Archaeological authority is sought as a precaution for any unrecorded archaeological sites.

3.1.7 Outline the approvals sought under the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983

N/A

3.1.8 Outline the approvals sought under the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012

N/A

3.1.9 Outline the approvals sought under the Crown Minerals Act 1991

N/A

3.1.10 Outline the approvals sought under the Public Works Act 1981

N/A

3.1.11 *Only applicable if more than one applicant:* Provide a statement of which approvals are proposed to be held by which applicant.

N/A

3.1.12 Where there are any particular eligibility requirements to apply for an above approval; identify what they are, who the relevant applicant is, and confirm that the relevant applicant meets those requirements (including providing any necessary supporting information or documentation to evidence this).

N/A

3.1.13 Are there any other types of consents, certificates, designations, concessions, and other legal authorisations (other than contractual authorisations or the proposed approvals) and you consider are needed to authorise the project (including any that may be needed by someone other than you as the applicant(s)). Provide details on whether these have been obtained.

Building consents, as required, will be obtained following approvals under the FTAA.

3.2 Project stages

3.2.1 If the project is planned to proceed in stages, provide: No

1. A statement of whether the project is planned to proceed in stages, including:
 - a. an outline of the nature, scale and timing of the stages; and
 - b. a statement of whether you intend to lodge a separate substantive application for each of the stages.
 - i. If a substantive application is intended to be lodged for each stage, address the questions under the section (Appropriateness for fast-track approvals process) for each stage of the project

3.3 Alternative project

3.3.1 If the project is proposed as an alternative project, provide: No

1. A statement of whether a part of the project is proposed as an alternative project in itself; and
 - a. Describe that part of the project; and
 - b. Explain how that part of the project proposed as an alternative project meets the referral assessment criteria in [section 22](#) of the Act.

3.4 Adverse effects

3.4.1 Describe any anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment.

The Project has the potential to give rise to a limited range of adverse effects in this environment. These effects can be managed through design and turbine location to ensure avoidance where practicable, minimisation and remediation. Residual effects are not anticipated to be significant, and no offsetting or compensation is expected to be required based on the survey and assessment work completed.

A summary of these effects is provided in Attachment 4 to this referral application.

3.4.2 Provide a statement of any activities involved in the project that are prohibited activities under the Resource Management Act 1991, and identify the relevant prohibited activity provision.

The Project does not include any prohibited activities under the Resource Management Act 1991.

3.5 Persons affected

3.5.1 Provide a list of the persons, groups and/or entities who you consider are likely to be affected by the project.

The list should include, as relevant, local authorities, relevant Māori groups (as set out at [section 13\(4\)\(j\)\(ii\)-\(vii\)](#) of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024), persons with a registered interest in land that may need to be acquired under the Public Works Act 198; and if the project includes a land exchange, the holder of an interest in the land that is to be exchanged by the Crown (see [Consultation requirements for referral application](#)).

Relevant Local Authorities

- Western Bay of Plenty District Council
- Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Relevant administering agency

- Department of Conservation (as Administering Agency for the Wildlife Act)
- Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (as Administering Agency for the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014)

Iwi Authorities, hapū, and Treaty settlement entities

- Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority;
- Te Runanga o Ngāti Ranginui iwi – Ngāi Tamarawaho Hapū and Ngāti Ruahine Hapū;
- Te Maru o Ngāti Rangiwhewehi Iwi Authority;
- Tapuika Iwi Authority;
- Ngāti Hangarau;
- Te Kapu O Waitaha;
- Te Komiti Nui o Ngāti Whakaue; and
- Te Tawharau o Ngāti Pukenga.

There are no customary marine rights or customary marine title groups affected by this Project. There are no relevant applicant groups under the Marine and Coastal (Takutai Moana) Act affected by this Project. There is also no land to be acquired under the Public Works Act.

3.5.2 Provide a summary of any consultation undertaken with the above persons and/or groups who you consider are likely to be affected by the project, and any other groups required to be consulted with under [section 11](#) of the Act, **and** how the consultation has informed the project.

The parties listed above were notified of this referral application in accordance with section 11 of the FTAA, and feedback was requested, within the 20 working day timeframe under the FTAA, by 5 May 2026.

As stated in the notification letters, MRL are aware that a referral under the FTAA is a first step, and as the Project progresses towards a substantive application, MRL welcomes the opportunity to continue to engage with these parties on the Project, in their areas of interest. Copies of the notification letters (excluding the attachments) are included as Attachment 5 to this referral application.

Feedback was received which focuses on the assessment and design detail. No fundamental matters have been identified with the Project. This feedback and a summary of how it has informed the Project is included as Attachment 5 to this referral application.

3.5.3 List any Treaty settlements that apply to the project area and provide a summary of the relevant principles and provisions in those settlements.

The position of Ngai Tamarawaho that there are no treaty settlements that apply to the Project area is acknowledged.

The position of Ngāti Rangiwhewehi that the Ngati Rangiwhewehi Claims Settlement Act 2014 applies is also acknowledged and a summary of this Act is set out below.

Ngati Rangiwhewehi Claims Settlement Act 2014

The Crown and Ngati Rangiwewehi signed a Deed of Settlement on 16 December 2012.

The Ngati Rangiwewehi Claims Settlement Act 2014 identifies the statutory acknowledgement areas of the Kaituna River and the Part Mangorewa Conservation and Ecological Area, areas over which Ngāti Rangiwewehi has recognised cultural, historical, and spiritual associations.

The Part Mangorewa Conservation and Ecological Area may or may not overlap with a small area of the southern extent of the Project Site. This area is acknowledged as environmentally and culturally sensitive and is currently being investigated for targeted stormwater design to ensure flow will be diverted from the catchment as a result of feedback. Continued engagement will occur with Ngati Rangiwewehi, the Applicant is committed to the preparation of a Cultural Impact Assessment and Ngati Rangiwewehi comments in response to the notification with respect to this area are acknowledged.

The Ngāti Rangiwewehi Claims Settlement Act 2014 gives effect to the Crown's settlement of historical Treaty of Waitangi claims with Ngāti Rangiwewehi and is underpinned by the principles of partnership, good faith, and active protection.

It includes statutory acknowledgements and deeds of recognition over specified areas, which require relevant Crown entities and decision makers to have regard to Ngāti Rangiwewehi's relationship with those areas when exercising relevant statutory functions.

The settlement also provides for engagement protocols between Ngāti Rangiwewehi and relevant Crown agencies, supporting ongoing consultation in relation to activities affecting cultural and environmental values and resources of significance to Ngāti Rangiwewehi.

The Act further includes cultural redress provisions that recognise and provide for the protection of wāhi tapu, traditional place names, and other areas of cultural significance.

Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014

The Crown and Tapuika signed a Deed of Settlement on 16 December 2014. No redress in the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014 or Deed of recognition affect natural and physical resources relevant to the Project or the Project Site.

The Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014 is within the wider area of interest, including the Ohaupara Stream catchment, which is connected to waterways and landscapes over which Tapuika has recognised cultural, historical, and spiritual associations, including the Kaituna River catchment.

Three proposed turbines are located within the Authority's area of interest. The closest statutory acknowledgement area (Ohaupara Stream, a Kaituna tributary) is ~50m south of the Project Site.

The Act gives effect to the Crown's settlement of historical Treaty of Waitangi claims with Tapuika and is underpinned by the principles of partnership, good faith, and active protection.

It includes statutory acknowledgements over specified areas including the Kaituna River, which require relevant decision makers to have regard to Tapuika's association with the river when exercising statutory functions, particularly in relation to resource management decisions affecting water quality, flow, and ecological health.

The settlement also establishes the Kaituna River co-governance and co-management framework (Te Maru o Kaituna River Authority), which provides for joint iwi and local authority involvement in the restoration, protection, and enhancement of the river and its catchment. This framework is intended to support integrated decision making and improved environmental outcomes for the Kaituna River system.

In addition, the Tapuika Claims Settlement Act 2014 provides for protocols with Crown agencies, including those responsible for conservation, fisheries, and resource management, setting out processes for engagement with Tapuika on matters affecting natural and physical resources within areas of significance.

The settlement also includes cultural redress provisions, recognising and providing for the protection of wāhi tapu, wāhi taonga, traditional place names, and other sites and values of cultural importance to Tapuika, and supporting their involvement in the management of those values.

Where the Project could potentially intersect with the settlement area or matters of cultural interest these will be addressed in the assessment of effects and continued engagement on the development of appropriate avoidance or mitigation measures with occur with the affected iwi. Initial cultural engagement has not identified any impediments for the Project.

3.5.4 If relevant, detail any principles or provisions in the Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019 that would be invoked by the project and identify which aspects of the application trigger or otherwise invoke these requirements.

N/A

3.5.5 Will the project be located on land returned under a Treaty settlement?

No

3.5.6 Provide evidence of written agreement by the owners of the land returned.

3.5.7 Describe any processes already undertaken under the Public Works Act 1981 in relation to the project:

No Public Works Act 1981 processes have been undertaken in relation to the Project.

3.5.8 Provide information identifying any parcels of Māori land, marae, or identified wāhi tapu within the project area:

N/A

3.6 Legal interests

3.6.1 Provide a description of any legal interests you or any others applying, have in the land on which the project will occur, including a statement of how that affects your ability to undertake the work.

The Project Site is held in a number of certificates of title by various owners. All landowners support the Project and agreements or easements are in place that enable the Project to proceed. There are no impediments on the ability of the Applicant to undertake the work for the Project as a result of the ownership the Project Site.

We set out the arrangements that have been reached with the various landowners.

Mangapapa Forestry Limited Partnership and Omanawa Farms Limited have both entered into a Wind Farm Agreement with Mamaku Renewables Limited in relation to their properties, which enables MRL to obtain the necessary approvals and consents with co-operation from the landowner and without hindrance. Turbines, substations, transmission lines and related infrastructure will be located on these properties.

Turbines, substations, transmissions lines and related infrastructure will also be located on Koromiko Dairies Limited's properties. Koromiko Dairies Limited have provided a letter of support to the Project which is included as Attachment 6 to the referral application.

Transmission Lines and access tracks for the Project will cross Crown Land. Easements allowing Right of Way Access across Crown Land (DOC) are already in place and benefit the properties owned by Mangapapa Forestry LP, Omanawa Farms Limited and Koromiko Dairies Limited. Easements allowing Right of Way Access across Crown Land (Forestry) are in place and benefit land owned by Koromiko Dairies Limited and Omanawa Farms Limited. Easements enabling electricity and telecommunications to be conveyed across Crown land (DOC) and Crown Land (Forestry) are also in place.

The remaining transmissions lines and the grid connection point to the Transpower network is located on properties owned by Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty District Council and operated as TECT Park. Discussions with WBOPDC confirm these properties as feasible to use for the Project.

3.7 Other matters

3.7.1 Have any activities included in the project, or any that are substantially the same as those involved in the project, previously been the subject of an application or a decision under a specified Act?

Please note the term 'application' includes a notice of requirement and any other means by which a decision may be sought under a specified Act.

No

3.7.2 If an application has been made, provide details of the application.

3.7.3 If a decision has been made, also provide the outcome of the decision and the reasons for it.

3.7.4 Provide a description of whether and how the project would be affected by climate change and natural hazards:

The Project Site has been assessed against a range of potential natural hazard and climate change risks. The Project area maybe prone to risk of earthquakes, slope instability and liquefaction, however, these matters are being appropriately addressed through geotechnical investigation and design. All identified potential risks can be managed through standard engineering and design measures.

Provide the additional details requested below as relevant to your application.

3.8 Specific proposed approvals

3.8.1 Approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991

3.8.1.1 *Resource consents*

If your application is seeking a consent for an activity that would otherwise be applied for under the Resource Management Act 1991, including an activity that is prohibited under the Act, provide the information below:

- An assessment of the project against any relevant national policy statement, any relevant national environmental standards and, if relevant, the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

The Project has been assessed by a planner as consistent with the relevant national policy statements, and national environmental standards. A summary of this is provided in Attachment 7 to this referral application.

- Information on whether, to the best of your knowledge, there are any existing resource consents relevant to the project site to which RMA [section 124C\(1\)\(c\)](#) (existing consent would need to expire to enable the approval to be exercised) or RMA [section 165Z1](#) (space already occupied by the holder of an aquaculture permit) would apply if the approval were to be applied for as a resource consent under that Act

The Regional Council have advised of existing resource consents related to the Project Site:

- Dairy Shed discharge
- Bridge, culvert and stream structures
- Septic Tank discharge
- Ground water bore for water take for dairy shed and domestic use

- Earthworks and discharge consent for a race track (TECT park).
Section 124C(1)(c) RMA does not apply to these consents because they can continue to be fully exercised unimpacted by the Project.

3.8.1.2 *Resource consents where the project includes standard freshwater fisheries activities*

If your application is seeking a resource consent and your project includes a [standard freshwater fisheries activity](#), provide the information requested below:

- If an in-stream structure is proposed (including formal notification of any dam or diversion structure), provide a description of the extent to which this may impede fish passage.
N/A
- Indicate whether any fish salvage activities or other complex freshwater fisheries activities are proposed.
N/A

3.8.1.3 *Designations*

If your application is seeking a designation or an alteration to an existing designation for which a notice of requirement would otherwise be lodged under the Resource Management Act 1991, provide the information below:

- An assessment of the project against any relevant national policy statement, any relevant national environmental standards, or, if relevant, the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.
N/A

3.8.1.4 *Designations where the project includes a standard freshwater fisheries activity*

If your application is seeking a designation or an alteration to an existing designation and your project includes a [standard freshwater fisheries activity](#), provide the information requested below:

- If an in-stream structure is proposed (including formal notification of any dam or diversion structure), provide a description of the extent to which this may impede fish passage.
N/A
- Indicate whether any fish salvage activities or other complex freshwater fisheries activities are proposed.
N/A

3.8.1.5 *Change or cancelation of conditions*

If your application is seeking a change or cancellation of resource consent condition that would otherwise be applied for under the Resource Management Act 1991, provide:

- Information about whether the change or cancellation of the condition is material to the implementation or delivery of the project.

N/A

3.8.1.6 *Certificates of compliance*

If your application is seeking a certificate of compliance that would otherwise be applied for under the Resource Management Act 1991, provide:

information that demonstrates the activity that the certificate of compliance is intended to cover can be done lawfully in the location without a resource consent.

N/A

3.8.2 Approvals relating to [Conservation Act 1987](#), [Reserves Act 1977](#), [Wildlife Act 1953](#), and [National Parks Act 1980](#)

3.8.2.1 *Concessions*

For applications seeking a [concession](#) that include a lease, answer the following:

- Will the lease be for a term (including any renewals that will, or is likely to, be more than 50 years?
No
- Will the granting of the lease trigger a right of first refusal or a right of offer or return?
 - If you answered yes to both a. and b. above, provide evidence that the applicant has written agreement from the holder(s) of the right of first refusal or [right of offer or return](#) to waive that right for the purposes of the proposed lease.

3.8.2.2 *Land exchanges*

For applications seeking an approval for a land exchange involving conservation land, provide the details below:

No

- A description of both land areas proposed for exchange (for example, maps showing areas and location, addresses and legal descriptions where possible)

- The financial value of the land proposed to be acquired by the Crown
- A brief description of the conservation values of both pieces of land, including an explanation of why the exchange would benefit the conservation estate.
- If the land exchange would trigger a right of first refusal or a right of offer or return, provide evidence that the applicant has written agreement from the holder of the right of first refusal or right of offer or return to waive that right for the purpose of the land exchange
- Provide sufficient detail in respect of both land areas to confirm that no part of any land to be exchanged by the Crown is land listed in [Schedule 4](#) or a reserve declared to be a national reserve under [section 13](#) of the Reserves Act 1977.

3.8.3 Approvals relating to complex Freshwater Fisheries activities

If your application is seeking an approval or dispensation that would otherwise be applied for under regulation [42](#) or [43](#) of the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 in respect of a [complex freshwater fisheries activity](#) provide the information requested below:

- Whether an in-stream structure is proposed (including formal notification of any dam or diversion structure), and a description of the extent to which this may impede fish passage.

N/A

- Whether any fish salvage activities or other complex freshwater fisheries activities are proposed.

N/A

3.8.4 Approvals relating to [Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf \(Environmental Effects\) Act 2012](#)

If your application is seeking a marine consent that would otherwise be applied for under the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf Act 2012, provide the information requested below:

- Any information relating to whether the Minister for Conservation is an affected person.

N/A

- If the applicant or the proposed holder of the marine consent has already applied for a consent under the EEZ Act in relation to the project, provide:

- Details of any application made;

- An explanation of any decisions made on that application; and
- Any information that Minister may consider under [section 22\(6\)](#) (comparison of activity against current or likely use of the area).

N/A

- Additional information (in a summary form) about compliance or enforcement action taken against the applicant or the person who is identified in the application as the proposed holder of the marine consent by the EPA under the EEZ Act.

N/A

3.8.5 [Approvals relating to Crown Minerals Act 1991](#)

3.8.5.1 *Access arrangements*

For an approval for an access arrangement that would otherwise be applied for under section 61 or 61B of the Crown Minerals Act 1991, provide:

- Information that confirms the applicant or the person identified in the application as the proposed holder of the access arrangement complies with [section 59\(1\)](#) and (2) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991 (which applies as if a reference to an access arrangement under that Act were a reference to an access arrangement under this Act) including;
 - Evidence that the applicant or person has provided each owner and occupier of the relevant land a notice in writing of their intention to obtain an access arrangement; and
 - Evidence that the notice complies with the requirements in [section 59\(2\)](#) of the Crown Minerals Act, and any matters required by regulations. =

N/A

3.8.5.2 *Mining permits*

For an approval for a mining permit that would otherwise be applied for under [section 23A](#) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991, provide the information requested below:

- A copy of the relevant exploration permit or existing privilege to be exchanged for a mining permit that entitles the holder to mine a Crown-owned mineral.

N/A

- The name and contact details of the proposed permit participants and the proposed permit operator.

N/A

- A proposed work programme for the proposed permit, which may comprise committed work, committed or contingent work, or both.

N/A

- Evidence of the technical or financial capability of the proposed permit holder to comply with and give proper effect to the work programme.

N/A

- Information about the proposed permit holder's history of compliance with mining or similar permits and their conditions.

N/A

- The proposed date on which the substantive application is intended to be lodged (if your referral application is accepted) in accordance with [section 42](#)(11).

N/A

- If the authorised person proposes to provide information under [section 37](#) (to the relevant chief executive), the date on which the person intends to provide that information.

N/A

- The proposed duration of the permit.

N/A

3.8.5.3 *Mining permits for petroleum*

If the proposed approvals include a mining permit for petroleum, provide:

- A map of the area over which the mining permit application is intended to be made, the area in which the surrender of an exploration permit or existing privileges is proposed (which must be the same area as the area over which the mining permit application is intended to be made), and the extent of the resource and reserves to which the development plan relates.

N/A

- The resources and reserves relating to the project, estimated in accordance with the Petroleum Resources Management System.

N/A

- A high-level overview of the following:
 - the proposed field development plan;
 - the proposed date for the commencement of petroleum production;
 - the economic model for the project;
 - the proposed duration of the proposed mining permit and;
 - decommissioning plans.

N/A

3.8.5.4 *Mining permits for minerals other than petroleum*

If the proposed approvals include a mining permit for minerals other than petroleum, provide:

- A map of the area over which the mining permit application is intended to be made, the area in which the surrender of an exploration permit or existing privileges is proposed

(which must be the same area as the area over which the mining permit application is intended to be made), and the extent of the resource and reserves to which the development plan relates.

N/A

- For minerals other than gold or silver, a report or statement confirming the ownership of the minerals targeted

N/A

- Information on whether the application will be for a [Tier 1 or Tier 2 permit](#).

N/A

- An estimate of the mineral resources and reserves relating to the project, including a summary on acquisition of the data and the data underpinning the estimate (such as information on sample locations, grade, and geology). For a Tier 1 permit application the resources and reserves relating to the project are to be estimated in accordance with a recognised reporting code such as JORC or NI 43-101.

N/A

- An indicative mine plan.

N/A

- A high-level overview of the following:
 - the proposed mining method;
 - the proposed date for the commencement of mining and estimated annual production;
 - the economic model for the project;
 - the status of or anticipated timing for completing any pre-feasibility or feasibility studies;
 - the proposed methods for processing mined material and handling and treating waste and;
 - anticipated plans for mine closure and rehabilitation.

N/A

Section 4: Authorisation

To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this application is true and correct.

I confirm that I am authorised to make this application - Yes

I have provided a copy of the application with all contact details redacted - Yes

I understand that all actual and reasonable costs incurred in relation to this application by MfE, EPA and other central and local government agencies will be recovered from me in accordance with [section 104](#) of the Act, and the [Fast-track Approvals Cost Recovery Regulations 2025](#) - Yes

Signature: *Samantha Gardner*

Date: 7/05/2026

Name: Samantha Gardner

Section 5: Attachments

List any documents submitted with the application.

- Remember: include a copy of your application with all contact details redacted.

Attachment number	Document name	Author	Document version

Referral application checklist

Use this checklist to confirm you have completed all sections of the referral application form.

Section 1: Applicant details	No
1.2 & 1.3 Agent's evidence of authority to represent the applicant(s) - if applicable	No
1.4 Compliance and enforcement history	No
Section 2: Referral application summary	No
2.1 Project name	No

2.2 Project description and location	No
2.3 Ineligible activity	No
2.4 Exemptions from requirement to provide agreement	No
2.5 Ministerial determinations under sections 23 and 24	No
2.6 Appropriateness for fast-track approvals process	No
Section 3: Project details	No
3.1 Approvals required	No
3.2 Project stages	No
3.3 Alternative project	No
3.4 Adverse effects	No
3.5 Persons affected	No
3.6 Legal interest	No
3.7 Other matters	No
3.8 Specific proposed approvals	No
Section 4: Authorisation	No
Section 5: Attachments	No