

File ref: FTAA-2507-1085

12 January 2026

New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi

C/- Evan Keating

By Email: [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe

Request for information from New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) in relation to the Takitimu North Link – Stage 2 application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

The Takitimu North Link – Stage 2 Expert Panel (the Panel) has directed the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to request further information from you under section 67 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act), relating to the Takitimu North Link – Stage 2 application.

At the direction of the Panel, the EPA is seeking further information from NZTA regarding **stormwater and national policy direction**. Specifically, the queries include:

- The stormwater assessment provided with the Application (Appendix 9.4.9) has been reviewed by the Panel's technical advisor. The stormwater assessment indicates that an independent peer review has been conducted, with all peer review comments having been resolved. Please provide the peer review report, and any associated correspondence with the peer reviewer supporting the position that all peer review comments have been resolved.
- It is understood that the analysis was conducted largely using the SWMM model. The Panel's technical advisor has advised that this is a 1D model that does not readily produce flood extent maps. Please explain the procedure for mapping the 1D model results to give 2D flood maps, as shown in Figures 2.8, 2.9, 2.10 and, most specifically in Figure 5.11. This is to enable the technical advisor and Panel to understand the accuracy associated with these mapped extents.
- Figure 5.11 shows the results of a flood effects assessment where flood extents pre and post the new construction are compared. At the scale of this map, the technical advisor is unable to confirm effect severity. Please provide electronic raster files of the flood extents or otherwise zoom-in scale maps of where differences are indicated, to enable the Panel's technical advisor to assess each instance of a modelled peak flood level increase of greater than 15mm (as shown in Table 5.10).
- On 18 December 2025, the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) announced that ten national direction instruments were approved by the Governor-General on 15 December 2025, as follows:

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- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Regulations 2025
- National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards 2025
- National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land Amendment 2025
- New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement Amendment 2025
- National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity Amendment 2025
- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management Amendment 2025
- Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Amendment Regulations 2025
- National Policy Statement for Infrastructure 2025
- National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation Amendment 2025
- National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Amendment 2025.

Three of these instruments are new, and seven have been amended. These documents will come into force on 15 January 2026. The Panel is currently drafting its decision on the Takitimu North Link – Stage 2 Application and seeks an assessment from the Applicant regarding the applicability or otherwise of these instruments to the Application.

Pursuant to section 67 of the FTAA, the Panel requests a planning and/or legal memorandum:

- (a) Confirming the extent to which any of the new or amended national direction instruments raise additional matters for assessment of the resource consent approvals sought under the FTAA which do not form part of the assessment provided with the Application; and
- (b) Setting out the Applicant's position on the implications of any such additional matters for the Panel's evaluation task under the FTAA.

See full details in **Appendix 1: “Request for Information – Stormwater and National Policy Direction”**

Supply of Information

In accordance with section 67(2) of the Act NZTA must:

- a) Provide electronic copies of the information or report requested; or
- b) Advise the EPA, with reasons that you decline to provide the information or report requested.

The Panel recognises that the applicant is currently preparing responses to comments received from invited parties, and that some safety-related matters may be addressed in those responses. To avoid duplication, the Panel requests only the information that will not be included in the applicant's response.

Accordingly, please provide the requested information relating to stormwater to the EPA by **16 January 2026**, and the requested information relating to the national policy direction by **19 January 2026**. If the information is not received by this date, the Panel will proceed on the basis that the request for further information has been declined.

If the information requested is not received, the Panel must proceed as if the request for further information has been declined.

Please note, the information will be provided to the Panel, the applicant and every person who provided comments on the application. The information will also be made available on the Fast-track website.

If you have any questions, please contact Application Lead, [REDACTED] by email at info@fasttrack.govt.nz

Nāku noa, nā

[REDACTED]
Application Lead, Fast-track Applications