

Version 1

Fast-track consenting guidance

For applications to be referred under the COVID-19 Recovery (fast-track) Consenting Act 2020



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

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About this guide

The COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act) is a short-term measure to help stimulate the economy during the economic and social crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Act sets new, faster processes for resource consents and notices of requirement. If a project is eligible to use the fast track, the Act replaces the processes under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

Applying for a fast track

Two types of project are eligible for the fast track: listed and referred. In both cases, they must be considered by an expert consenting panel.

- Listed activities access the fast track by applying directly to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) who acts as the secretariat for the expert consenting panel.
- Referred projects access the fast track via two separate applications; firstly to the Minister for the Environment, and if successful, to the EPA.

Referred projects

The focus of this guide is on referred projects.

A 'referred project' is one where you must first apply to the Minister for the Environment for your project to be referred to an expert consenting panel.

If an application is successful, an Order in Council¹ will confirm that your project can then follow the fast-track process.

This guide aims to assist applicants and local authorities who will be involved in applications to refer projects to expert consenting panels.

The information is set out as follows:

- Introduction: this gives a background to the Act, and sets the context for applications within the fast-track process.
- The four main steps of applying for a referral. The aim is to help applicants understand the information they must provide, and the process after they have lodged their application with the Minister for the Environment. There is also information for local authorities about their role.

¹ An Order in Council is a legislative instrument made by the Governor-General under the authority of empowering legislation (in this case the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020). The Act establishes the scope of, and process for developing, Orders in Council. Orders in Council are used in [two](#) ways under the Act. First, projects approved by the Minister are referred to the EPA and consenting panels through an Order in Council. Second, local authorities, Kainga Ora, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development can be added by Order in Council, into the 'Work on Infrastructure' permitted activity provisions in the Act

- Other process matters: seeking judicial review and what happens with Orders in Council when the Act is repealed (cancelled).
- The next steps if a project is referred to an expert consenting panel.
- Appendix: Climate change issues, including what to consider if a project involves greenhouse gas emissions.

Note: this guide has no legal status and is not a legal interpretation of the Act.

How to apply

As of 3 August 2020, you can only use the Ministry's [online application system](#) to apply for the fast-track consenting process.

For further information or to request someone to speak to, contact:

Ministry for the Environment: Fast-track Consenting Team

Email: fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz

Introduction

Background to the Act

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis has caused serious economic and social disruption, and the consequences will be felt in New Zealand for several years. In these times of crisis, the normal consenting and approval processes are not fast or certain enough.

The purpose of this Act is to urgently promote employment to support New Zealand's recovery from the economic and social impacts of COVID-19 and to support the certainty of ongoing investment across New Zealand, while continuing to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

The Act is a short-term step to stimulate the economy and will self-repeal (be automatically cancelled) two years from enactment.

The Act came into effect on 9 July 2020.

Fast tracks at a glance

- The COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 sets new processes for:
 - resource consents
 - notices of requirement²
 - specific organisations to carry out work on existing infrastructure.
- The fast tracks modify existing RMA processes. They are intended to:
 - speed up nationwide infrastructure and development projects
 - get projects started and people into jobs faster
 - continue to promote the sustainable management of resources.
- Expert consenting panels replace the role of local authorities and other decision-makers under the RMA.

Figure 1 shows the processes.

Which projects are eligible for fast track?

Two types of projects are eligible for fast-track processes: listed and referred.

Listed projects

See Schedule 2 of the Act for the listed projects. If a project is listed, it can access the fast-track process directly. See [Next steps: applications for resource consents and notices of requirement for designations](#).

² A notice of requirement is an application by a requiring authority (such as a local authority or network utility operator) to designate land for a public work.

Referred projects

If a project is not listed, an application must be made to the Minister for the Environment for it to become a referred project.

- If the Minister accepts the application, or part of the application, the project will be confirmed through an Order in Council.
- If the application relates, at least in part, to the coastal marine area, the decision will be made jointly with the Minister for Conservation.

This guide focuses on the application process for referred projects.

About the fast-track process

The fast-track process via an expert consenting panel is similar for both listed and referred projects.

Applications for resource consent or notices of requirement are lodged with the EPA. The EPA reviews the application for completeness, then refers it to an expert consenting panel to consider and make a decision.

Expert consenting panel

All applications go to the expert consenting panels. These panels replace local authorities and other first-instance decision-makers under the RMA. The panel convener, who is a current or retired Environment Court Judge, appoints the chair and other panel members. The expert consenting panel must consider and determine the applications.

How fast tracks differ from RMA processes

The timeframes, notification process and appeal rights differ from RMA processes. In particular, there is no public notification and no obligation for a hearing. Appeal rights are limited to a point of law appeal to the High Court, and a further right of appeal to the Court of Appeal. There is no right of appeal to the Supreme Court.

Work on infrastructure

The Act also enables some organisations to carry out works on existing infrastructure, such as operation, maintenance, replacement or minor upgrades, without resource consents, designations or outline plans of work. This process is currently available to the New Zealand Transport Agency and KiwiRail, provided they meet requirements in Subpart 2 and Schedule 4 of the Act.

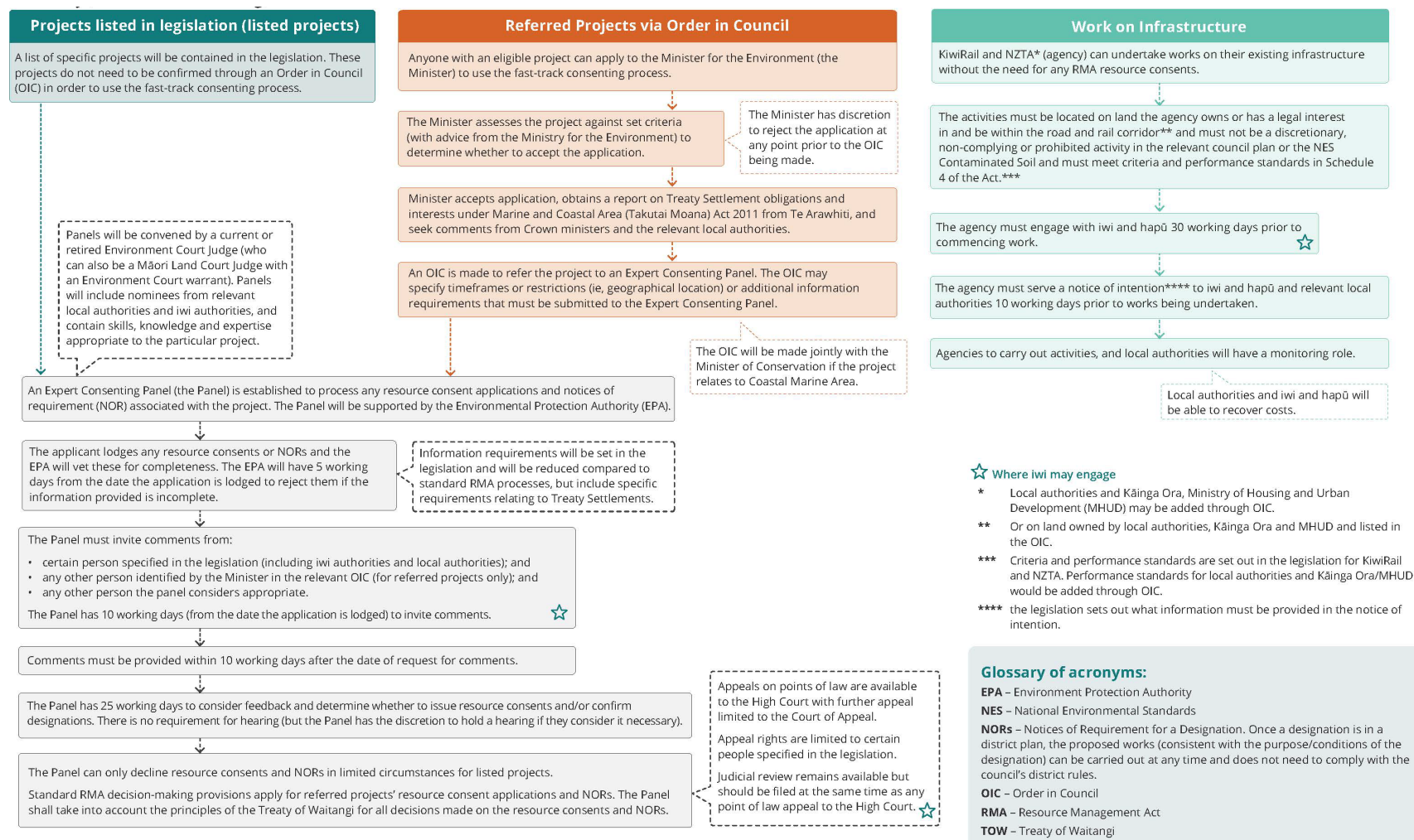
Local authorities, Kāinga Ora, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development can request to be added through Order in Council as agencies that can access the permitted activity provisions of the Act.

More information

See the [Ministry for the Environment's website](#).

Figure 1: Fast-track processes under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act

This figure shows the process to be followed for projects to be fast tracked under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020.



Step 1: Apply for referral to an expert consenting panel

Sections 16–27 of the Act outline the process for applying for a project to be referred to an expert consenting panel. There is no application fee.

How to apply

Follow these steps to apply:

1. Go to the Ministry's [online application system](#) to apply for the fast-track consenting process.
2. Register to set up an account or sign in to your existing account.
3. Create either an **individual** account for you as an individual or a **business** account for an organisation.
4. Click **Apply** to start your application. Note you can save the draft application and return to complete it.
5. Click **Submit** once your application form is complete.
6. A copy of your application will be emailed to you.

Required information

Section 20 of the Act sets out the information you must include – see paraphrased below.

Proposal and effects

1. A description of the proposed project and the activities it involves.
2. The approximate location of the project (which may be on a map), the address and legal description of the site, and the registered legal owners of the land.
3. The anticipated start and finish dates for construction (where relevant).
4. Whether the project will proceed in stages, and if so, an outline of the staging.
5. The anticipated and known adverse effects on the environment, including temporary and permanent/ongoing effects.
6. A general assessment of the project in relation to national policy statements and national environmental standards.

Meeting the criteria

7. An explanation of how the project meets the criteria in section 18 of the Act.

The Minister cannot refer a project if it includes activities that are disqualified in section 18 – see [Criteria for projects that may be approved \(section 18\)](#).

Persons affected

8. A list of the people you consider are likely to be affected by the project, including relevant local authorities, relevant iwi authorities, and relevant Treaty settlement entities.
9. A summary of any consultation you have undertaken with those affected and the results of that consultation.
10. A list of any Treaty settlements that apply to the project location, and a summary of the principles and provisions.

Completing the project

11. A description of your legal interest in the land where the project will occur and whether all the land required for the project is under your control. Include a statement of how your interest in the land affects your ability to do the work.
12. An outline of the resource consents and any designations, or changes to designations, you consider are needed to authorise the project. This includes those that someone else may need and should include both district council and regional council consents, and the activity status of the consents. Below is an example of the level of detail:

Table 1: Plan and resource consent information to provide

Relevant plan/ standard	Relevant rule/ regulation	Reason for consent	Activity status	Location of proposed activity
Regional Plan: Water for Otago	12.3.4.1(i): Diversion of water – temporary and permanent	Damming or diverting water not otherwise provided for in the plan	Discretionary activity	High Creek
National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health 2011	Regulation 11(1)	Earthworks (soil disturbance) on land that contains an activity described in the HAIL.	Discretionary activity	36 Main Road

13. Other legal approvals (other than contractual) that you consider may be required to start the project (eg, authorities under the Historic New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, the Building Act, or concessions under the Conservation Act 1987).

Other matters

14. A statement of whether you have already applied for resource consent or lodged notices of requirement under the RMA for the same or a similar project. If so, provide the details and any decisions.
15. A description of whether and how climate change and natural hazards would affect the project (see '[Appendix – Climate change considerations](#)').
16. A statement of any compliance or enforcement actions against you by a local authority or EPA under the RMA, and the outcome.

Does the project meet the criteria?

A project cannot be referred to an expert consenting panel unless it meets all the criteria in section 18 of the Act (paraphrased below). The Minister can decline an application if there is insufficient information to determine whether the project meets the criteria.

Criteria for projects that may be approved (section 18)

The Minister must be satisfied that the project will help to achieve the purpose of the Act, as described in section 19 (see below).

The project **must not include any of the following activities**:

- (a) an activity that is categorised as a prohibited activity in the RMA, regulations (including national environmental standards), or a plan or proposed plan
- (b) an activity that—
 - i. would occur on land returned under a Treaty settlement; and
 - ii. has not been agreed to in writing by the relevant landowner
- (c) an activity that—
 - i. would occur in a customary marine title area under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011; and
 - ii. has not been agreed to in writing by the holder of the relevant customary marine title order issued under that Act
- (d) an activity that—
 - i. would occur in a protected customary rights area under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 and have a more than minor adverse effect on the exercise of the protected customary right; and
 - ii. has not been agreed to in writing by the holder of a protected customary rights recognition order issued under that Act.

Determining whether the project will promote the purpose of the Act (section 19)

To assess whether a project will help achieve the purpose of the Act, the Minister may have regard to the following matters, assessed at the level of detail the Minister considers appropriate:

- (a) the project's economic benefits and costs for people or industries affected by COVID-19
- (b) the project's effect on the social and cultural well-being of current and future generations
- (c) whether the project would be likely to progress faster by using the processes provided by this Act than would otherwise be the case
- (d) whether the project may result in a public benefit by, for example,—
 - (i) generating employment:
 - (ii) increasing housing supply:
 - (iii) contributing to well-functioning urban environments:

- (iv) providing infrastructure in order to improve economic, employment, and environmental outcomes, and increase productivity:
- (v) improving environmental outcomes for coastal or freshwater quality, air quality, or indigenous biodiversity:
- (vi) minimising waste:
- (vii) contributing to New Zealand’s efforts to mitigate climate change and transition more quickly to a low-emissions economy (in terms of reducing New Zealand’s net emissions of greenhouse gases):
- (viii) promoting the protection of historic heritage:
- (ix) strengthening environmental, economic, and social resilience, in terms of managing the risks from natural hazards and the effects of climate change
- (e) whether there is potential for the project to have significant adverse environmental effects, including greenhouse gas emissions
- (f) any other matter that the Minister considers relevant.

More information

- See [Appendix – Climate change considerations](#)

How much detail is needed?

The Act states that an application “need only provide a *general level* of detail, sufficient to inform the Minister’s decision on the application (emphasis added)”. Rather than a full assessment of environmental effects, the Act refers to “a *description* of the anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment”, “a general assessment of the project” in relation to national direction and “an *explanation* of how the project meets the criteria in section 18.” (emphasis added).

There must be enough information for the Minister to determine whether the project:

- includes any of the activities that are disallowed by section 18 (and therefore the project must be declined)
- will help to achieve the Act’s purpose, including whether it will create a public benefit (taking into account the matters in section 19). Part IX of the application form provides prompts for applicants to include information on each of the matters in section 19.

The Minister can ask for further information, and can decline an application if there is not enough information to determine whether the project meets the criteria.

More detail, similar to that required for resource consent and designation processes under the RMA, is only required at the stage where a project is referred to an expert consenting panel.

More information

- We recommend you contact the Ministry before lodging an application to discuss the requirements for your project.
- See [‘Should the applicant have a pre-application discussion with the Ministry?’](#)

Other useful information

When approving an application for referral to an expert panel, the Minister may recommend that the Order in Council specifies certain matters. To help with this, you may wish to provide additional information, for example:

- whether the timeframes for the panel to assess an application should differ from the timeframes under the Act
- whether any people/organisations *not* listed in clause 17(6) of Schedule 6 should have the opportunity to comment on the application.

If a project needs to use or connect to any local authority infrastructure, or rely on services provided by other utility providers, the application should provide details on the availability and sufficiency of that infrastructure. If any extension or upgrades are required, you should describe how this will occur.

Consistency with Treaty principles

Section 6 of the Act requires that all persons performing functions and exercising powers under the Act must act in a manner consistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi). Section 17 requires the Minister to obtain and consider a report that identifies relevant iwi authorities, Treaty settlements and settlement entities and other specific matters of importance to iwi and hapū before deciding on a referral application.

You are required to identify any relevant Treaty settlements applying to the geographical location of the project, together with a summary of the relevant principles and provisions in those settlements. This is needed so you are aware of any relevant matters of importance to local iwi or hapū and have the opportunity to undertake early engagement with them if they wish. Given that the Ministry is required to produce a detailed report to the Minister on these matters, you only need to identify relevant Treaty settlements, settlement entities, and iwi authorities and provide a high-level summary of the provisions and principles in the settlements. We recommend you contact the Ministry for advice on this part of the application.

Should the applicant have a pre-application discussion with the Ministry?

We recommend you discuss your project with the Ministry before making an application. This is a good opportunity to:

- ensure you understand the process of applying for referral
- understand the next steps (via the EPA) if a project is referred
- discuss the proposal and the information required to support the application
- discuss the Minister's consultation and other processing requirements.

The Ministry will connect you to a contact person who can answer your questions.

Contact

Ministry for the Environment: Fast-track Consenting Team

Email: fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz

Does the applicant need to consult with anyone before making an application?

There is no requirement to consult with stakeholders or the community before applying. However, you may decide to undertake pre-application consultation with iwi, hapū, local authorities and/or affected stakeholders if you consider it appropriate. Early engagement may streamline the subsequent stage of the process where the expert consenting panel is required to invite written comments on referred projects from specific persons and groups including relevant Treaty settlement entities and iwi authorities (who may also seek comments from hapū).

Step 2: Minister receives the application

The Minister must follow the processes specified in sections 21 and 22 of the Act once an application is received.

The Minister invites written comments and requests further information

Requesting comments helps the Minister assess the project and follow up on any matters raised in, or omitted from the application.

The Minister *must* invite written comments from relevant local authorities and Ministers.³ Examples of information from local authorities:

- Comments on the consenting triggers and planning documents that the applicant states are relevant to their project.
- Whether a resource consent or notices of requirement have been sought for the same or similar proposals, and the stage those applications are at.
- Any RMA enforcement action against the applicant.
- Iwi participation requirements relevant to RMA consenting and designation processes (eg, as set out in iwi participation legislation, Mana Whakahono a Rohe or joint management agreements).
- Infrastructure constraints that may arise from the project (such as upgrades to the stormwater network or new servicing infrastructure).

The Minister *may* invite written comments from any other person.

Comments are required within 10 working days of receiving the request.

The Minister *must* obtain and consider a report prepared by the Ministry in consultation with the Office for Māori Crown Relations – Te Arawhiti. The report should identify iwi authorities and Treaty settlement entities who will be invited to comment if the application is referred to an expert consenting panel. The report must also identify any Treaty settlements that relate to the project area, and the principles and provisions in these (including iwi participation in co-governance and co-management); any recognised negotiation mandates and current negotiations for Treaty settlements; and any Court orders granted under Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 that recognise protected customary rights or customary marine title in relation to the project area.

³ A 'relevant Minister' is defined as the Minister of the Crown who, under the authority of any warrant or with the authority of the Prime Minister, is responsible for any of the following portfolios: arts, culture, and heritage; conservation; climate change; defence; education; housing; infrastructure; land information; local government; Māori Crown Relations - Te Arawhiti; transport; Treaty of Waitangi negotiations; urban development; any other Portfolio to which the Minister considers the application is relevant (section 21(6)).

The Minister *may* request further information from the applicant or the relevant local authorities at any time before making a decision. The request will specify a timeframe, but he or she can consider late information if the decision is not yet made.

Will the Minister always seek written comments?

If it is clear that an application will not meet the referral criteria, the Minister may decide not to progress it or seek comments. This keeps the process timely and efficient.

Step 3: Minister's decision

The Minister will make a decision once comments and reports have been received. The Ministry (and Department of Conservation where relevant) will advise the Minister based on the matters set out in the Act.

The Minister may accept the application in full, in part, refer the initial stages while deferring decisions about remaining stages, or decline it. For accepted applications (in whole or in part), the Minister may also place restrictions on the project, and specify matters to undertake during the expert consenting panel process.

Accepting an application for referral (referral order)

Before deciding to accept an application, the Minister must consider the matters in section 24. The Minister is required to consider the application, the report on Treaty of Waitangi matters under section 17, any comments received from local authorities and relevant Ministers under section 21, and any further information requested and provided under section 22.

The Minister must also be satisfied that the project meets the referral criteria in section 18, including whether the project will meet the purpose of the Act (see '[Does the project meet the criteria?](#)').

In accepting an application, the Minister may decide to:

- refer all or part of a project to an expert consenting panel
- refer the initial stages of a project, while deferring decisions about the remaining stages
- restrict aspects of the project, such as geographic location, duration or activities
- specify information that must be submitted to the panel
- specify persons or groups that the expert consenting panel must invite comments from (in addition to those in Schedule 6 of the Act)
- set timeframes for the expert consenting panel to process a resource consent or notice of requirement, which may differ from those in Schedule 6.

If the Minister decides to accept an application (whole or in part), he/she must recommend a referral order. This is an Order in Council made by the Governor-General, referring a project in whole or in part to an expert consenting panel. A referral order must give effect to the Minister's decisions on the application for referral.

A notice of the decisions, the reasons, and the report by the Ministry and Te Arawhiti under section 17 must be given to the applicant, anyone invited to comment on the application, the EPA, panel convener, iwi authorities and Treaty settlement entities, and any group in a joint management agreement or Mana Whakahono a Rohe relating to the project area. This information will also be available on the [Ministry for the Environment's website](#).

Declining an application for referral

Section 23 of the Act specifies the matters the Minister must consider before a decision can be made to decline an application. The Minister must decline an application for referral if a project does not meet the criteria in section 18. However, the Minister can decline for any other reason, whether or not the criteria are met.

The Minister also has the discretion to accept part of an application only, and decline other parts (section 24(3)). Below are reasons for declining (but the Minister is not limited to these):

- the applicant has not provided enough information for the Minister to determine whether the project meets the criteria in section 18
- it would be more appropriate for the project to go through the standard consenting or designation process under the RMA
- the project is inconsistent with a national policy statement
- directing the project to a panel would be inconsistent with a Treaty settlement
- the project involves an activity that would occur on land that the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations considers necessary for Treaty settlement purposes
- the applicant has a poor history of complying with environmental regulations
- there is not enough time to refer and consider the application before this Act is repealed.

The Minister may also accept an application even if one or more of the above reasons apply.

The decision to decline an application can be made before or after receiving a comments or further information. However, if any of these have been received within the timeframes, they must be considered as part of the decision-making process.

A notice of the decisions for declining a referral application, and the reasons, must be given to the applicant and anyone invited to comment on the application. The decisions, reasons and report by the Ministry and Te Arawhiti under section 17, will be available on the [Ministry for the Environment's website](#).

Step 4: Order in Council

When the Governor-General receives a recommendation from the Minister to make a referral order, the Governor-General may make an Order in Council to refer the project (or part of a project) to proceed to an expert consenting panel. The Order in Council must give effect to the Minister's decision under section 24 and must comply with Schedule 3 of the Act.

Other process matters

Timeframes

There are no time limits for the Minister to process an application. However, the Minister is under a general duty to act promptly (section 10).

Assessing applications involves several steps, including briefings and Cabinet papers. These take time, and should be factored into any assessment of the merits of the fast track over standard RMA processes. We recommend you contact the Ministry to discuss timeframes.

Judicial review

Judicial review is available on the process used to assess an application to refer a project to an expert consenting panel. The Act does not affect the rights of people to seek judicial review (section 13).

Amending an Order in Council (a referral order)

If a referral order needs to be amended to correct a minor error or omission, this can be done by an Order in Council, without going through the full application process set out in sections 16–25.

However, if a substantive amendment is required to a referral order, this will be treated as a new application, following the four-step process from the start.

Transitional provisions – revoking an Order in Council

The Act self-repeals two years after the date it receives Royal Assent (8 July 2020). An Order in Council to refer a project to an expert consenting panel will be revoked (withdrawn) when the Act is repealed (cancelled). Referral orders may be made immediately before the repeal of the Act.

An Order in Council remains in force until decisions (including any appeals or judicial reviews) on a consent application or notice of requirement are finalised. If your referral application is approved by the Minister and a referral order is made before the two-year self-repeal date, you may lodge fast-track consent applications, notices of requirement, and certificates of compliance up to six months after the Act repeals. This allows for a referral order to be made just before the repeal of the Act, and time for an application to be lodged with the EPA.

Next steps: applications for resource consents and notices of requirement for designations

Once a project is confirmed through an Order in Council to follow the fast-track process, applications for resource consent or notice of requirement must be made to the EPA using the approved form.

We recommend you contact the EPA to have a preliminary discussion about your application.
Email: fasttrack@epa.govt.nz

Appendix: Climate change considerations

Climate change considerations are part of the matters the Minister may have regard to when determining whether a project will help to achieve the purpose of the Act. These relate to identifying public benefits, and the potential for significant adverse environmental effects.

Section 19(d) includes whether the project may result in a public benefit by:

- contributing to New Zealand's efforts to mitigate climate change, and transition more quickly to a low-emissions economy (reducing New Zealand's net emissions of greenhouse gases)
- strengthening environmental, economic and social resilience, by managing the risks from natural hazards and the effects of climate change.

Section 19(e) provides for consideration of the potential for significant adverse environmental effects, including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Applicants are also required to describe whether and how the project would be affected by climate change and natural hazards.

We recommend you contact the Ministry if you think your project may result in significant GHG emissions, particularly net increases.⁴ You can discuss how to measure emissions, and include information about their impact in your application.

Information on greenhouse gas emissions

Applications must:

- describe the anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment
- explain how it meets the criteria in section 18.

Activities that emit or remove GHG will have an impact on New Zealand's net emissions.⁵

While the effects of climate change and natural hazards should also be considered, this guide focuses on GHG because it is a new area for resource management.

Applicants should provide enough information to determine whether their project is likely to have:

- a significant net *negative* emissions impact (increase in emissions), or
- a significant net *positive* emissions impact (decrease in emissions), or
- a minimal or uncertain emissions impact.

Disclosing emissions impacts is useful to inform whether a project could affect New Zealand's ability to meet emissions budgets, and possible actions to manage emissions.

⁴ The Ministry's Climate Impact Assessment team can be emailed directly at cipa@mfe.govt.nz.

⁵ 'Emissions' refers to the greenhouse gas emissions defined in New Zealand's Greenhouse Gas Inventory. This covers carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases. 'Net' emissions include emissions and removals from land-use change and forestry.

Details of the size and scale of the emissions source or associated activity are required to understand the impact. For example:

- the amount of land converted to or from forestry or agriculture
- change in the type and amount of fuel use (or additional supply)
- impact on electricity supply or demand, and the demand profile for electricity intensive projects
- impact on transport volumes, and change of transport mode
- the number of houses built, relative density, and proximity to public amenities and employment.

Where feasible, quantify the emissions impact.⁶

Some projects will have short-term emissions impact from the construction phase, as well as long-term emissions impact over the lifetime of the project.

For long-term impacts, you should consider:

- the direct discharge of GHG
- any impacts from changes in activities associated with emissions (such as transport infrastructure).

Also helpful is a statement on how emissions will be mitigated, reduced or offset, where plans are in place to do so.

A project is likely to have an emissions impact if there is an effect on certain activities – as the table shows.

Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• electricity generation (renewable, fossil fuel and biomass)• electricity demand (eg, building a factory, electricity efficiency interventions)• use of process heat (electric, fossil fuel, and biomass)• industrial energy efficiency• supply of GHG emitting fuels• energy efficiency of buildings
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• total distance travelled by vehicles• change of transport mode (public transport, walking and biking)• change of freight transport mode• aviation activity• switching from fossil fuels to electricity, hydrogen and biofuels• electric vehicle uptake

⁶ For further guidance on quantifying emissions, see the Ministry’s suite of documents on [Measuring emissions: A guide for organisations](#).

Building and construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of construction materials (embodied emissions associated with the production of construction materials) • use of GHG-emitting fuels during construction • substantial construction waste • higher-density and/or centrally located housing that may reduce transport emissions
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amount of waste to (or diverted from) landfill • landfill gas capture • opportunities for reuse and recycling
Land use and agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amount of land converted to/from forest land or between other land uses • amount of livestock • irrigation and water storage • use of nitrogen fertiliser
Industrial processes and products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • industrial processes that emit non-energy related GHGs (eg, methanol, steel and aluminium production)

This list of examples is not complete and there is some overlap between sectors. It is a guide for identifying emissions impacts and where they may occur.