



2 May 2024

Caron Ward
Aukaha
By email: s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Caron

RE: FAST TRACK APPROVAL APPLICATION

This letter follows up on a call from Mayor Tim Cadogan to advise the Manuherekia Catchment Group will be applying for inclusion in Schedule 2 of the Fast Track Approvals Bill.

The Manuherekia Catchment Project is a long running whole of catchment project, focused on setting a new flow regime for the Manuherekia River as well as providing for the integrated management of existing storages within the Manuherekia Catchment. It includes upgrade or replacement of the existing Falls Dam as well as other water optimisation measures - including possible Clutha/Mata-Au augmentation - to support water use efficiency in the lower valley and additional catchment storage within the vicinity of Wades Creek in the Hawkdun/Idaburn Irrigation Company command area.

The timeframe for preparing the application has been very short; we have deliberately avoided commenting on specific dam size, reservoir level, minimum flows etc as there has not been the time for detailed design and hydrological modelling.

Criteria for inclusion in Schedule 2 includes the project having regionally significant benefits. It is hoped our stakeholders will recognise and support this application as providing regionally significant infrastructure which delivers significant benefits to the Central Otago district.

This application is only the first step in a very long journey. We recognise your contribution will be critical and we will seek engagement with you on the project.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CH' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Clare Hadley
General Manager

Cc: Dean Whaanga, Te Ao Marama