

Jacob Paget

From: Neil Deans S 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 27 May 2024 3:18 pm
To: Listed Projects
Cc: Anna Galvin; Jane Wheeler; Meredith Lawry
Subject: RE: [IN-CONFIDENCE]Feedback on Waikokowai Wind Farm
Attachments: Bittern GPS tag data for the Waikato Region.jpg; SIPO migrations that pass through the Waikato region.jpg

Kia ora e Rob

We are not aware there is any public conservation land within this project area; nor does there appear to be any such land immediately adjacent.

The applicant acknowledges that they have no wildlife or fisheries assessments but that these are being commissioned. There are some significant areas of potential habitat within the project area, as follows:

- Long-tailed bats (Threatened – Critically Endangered) have been recorded less than 12km east and to the north and south, so should be considered highly likely to be present.
- The area is a known flyway for South Island pied oystercatchers (Declining). See attached image.
- Records from tracked bittern (Threatened – Critically Endangered) – see attached map – do not pass through the site. However, this site lies between areas of known bittern habitat on the west coast and the lakes and wetlands around Huntly.
- Other highly mobile species are likely to pass through this area for the same reasons. This includes white heron (Threatened – Nationally Critical), Caspian tern (Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable), royal spoonbill (Naturally Uncommon) and migratory species moving between the South Island and northern feeding grounds.

None of this are grounds for ineligibility of the project but does suggest it may not yet be ready for Expert Panel consideration.

The project area is within the scope of the Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010. No public conservation land is included within the project area, so co-management agreements do not apply. Co-management of the river (and its tributaries) does apply, however. We would advise that Tainui and relevant hapū are consulted for their views on the project and whether it would uphold their settlement.

Regards

Neil Deans
Advisor – RM Reform
Department of Conservation—*Te Papa Atawhai*
S 9(2)(a)
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From: Listed Projects <ListedProjects@mfe.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 3:14 PM
To: Neil Deans S 9(2)(a)
Cc: Anna Galvin S 9(2)(a)
Subject: [IN-CONFIDENCE]Feedback on Waikokowai Wind Farm

Kia ora Neil,

Please find attached the application material for listed project application FTA199, Waikokowai Wind Farm.

The applicant indicates a Wildlife Act approval is required.

Could you please let us know anything you're aware of that would render this project ineligible under Clause 18, or any relevant Treaty settlement provisions you are aware of?

If possible, please provide feedback by **5pm Friday 24 May**.

Ngā Mihi
Rob

Rob Schick

Team Leader | Kaiarataki Rōpu

Strategic Investments Team | Ngā Haumitanga Rautaki

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

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