

BRF-2648

1 February 2023

Jim Stabback  
Chief Executive Officer  
Auckland Council  
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Jim Stabback

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – Auckland Surf Park Community Project**

The Minister for the Environment (Minister) has received an application from AW Holdings 2021 Limited to refer the Auckland Surf Park Community Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

The project is described in Appendix A and the application documents are in Attachment 1.

Under delegated authority from the Minister and pursuant to section 21(2) of the FTCA, I invite Auckland Council Council to provide written comments on the referral application. A template is provided for this purpose in Attachment 2. Comment is sought on the specific matters outlined in the table below, and on any other matter you consider relevant to the Minister's decision on whether or not to accept the application.

| <b>Specific questions on the application</b>   |
|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Are there any reasons that you consider it more appropriate for the project, or part of the project, to proceed through existing Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) consenting processes rather than the processes in the FTCA?</li><li>2. What reports and assessments would normally be required by the Council for a project of this nature in this area?</li><li>3. Does the applicant, or a company owned by the applicant, have any environmental regulatory compliance history in your region?</li><li>4. How does the project align with the Silverdale West Dairy Flat Industrial Area Structure Plan, and how do you expect the implementation of the Structure Plan will impact on the long-term viability of the project?</li></ol> |




The above information is provided to you in confidence and as part of the statutory process set out in the FTCA. Please do not forward the application or request for comments to anyone outside your organisation.

If the Minister accepts the application and the project is referred to a panel, Auckland Council will have the opportunity to nominate a local authority representative (who could be a councillor or independent hearings commissioner) to sit on the panel(s) and determine the RMA approvals for the project. The applicant will provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects and cultural impact assessments at this stage and the council will have the opportunity to provide further comments to the panel. The Ministry for the Environment has prepared guidance on local authority involvement with fast-track consenting projects which you can access on the Ministry for the Environment website.

Please provide comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister takes them into consideration when making his decision. Note that the Minister is not required to consider any comments provided after this time.

If it is more efficient for you to discuss the application, please contact the Ministry for the Environment's Fast-track Consenting Team at [fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz) to arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely



Madeleine Berry  
**Acting Manager, Fast-track Consenting Team**

Appendix:

- A. Details of proposed project

Attachments:

1. Application to refer the Auckland Surf Park Community Project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information (Databox link)
2. Response template for written comments

cc: Ian Smallburn, General Manager Resource Consents,  
s 9(2)(a)

## Appendix A – Details of proposed project

| <b>Project</b>                       | <b>Applicant</b>         | <b>Details</b>  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Auckland Surf Park Community Project | AW Holdings 2021 Limited | <p>The project is to construct and operate a surf park at 1350 Dairy Flat Highway, Silverdale, Auckland including operational buildings, 40 visitor accommodation units, a 20-unit wellness retreat, a restaurant, data centre and 7-hectare solar farm to provide power to the surf park. The project will include construction of infrastructure for three-waters services, roading, site access and parking, landscaping and planting, and revegetating a stream corridor.</p> <p>The project involves activities such as clearing vegetation, carrying out earthworks, discharging stormwater and contaminants to land, discharging wastewater to land, taking, diverting and discharging groundwater, constructing buildings, installing a solar farm, a surf pool and associated infrastructure and structures, landscaping and planting.</p> |