

BRF-2648

1 February 2023

Nicole Rose  
Chief Executive Officer  
Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency  
Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Nicole Rose

**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 (a panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

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

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

Waka Kotahi may have an interest in the project because it may impact the State Highway network. Under delegated authority from the Minister and pursuant to section 21(3) of the FTCA, I invite Waka Kotahi's written comments on the referral application. A template is provided for this purpose in Attachment 2.

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.

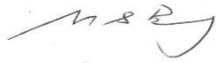
If the Minister accepts the application and the project are referred to a panel, the applicant will be able to lodge applications with the Environmental Protection Authority for the approvals needed under the Resource Management Act 1991. The applicant must provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects and cultural impact assessment(s) as part of this process.

Please provide comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister takes them into consideration when deciding whether or not to accept the referral

application. Note that the Minister is not required to consider any comments provided after this time.

If you would like more information about the fast-track consenting process, or 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 in covering email)
2. Response template for written comments

cc: Sonya McCall, Team Leader, Environmental Planning, s 9(2)(a)  
Jenni Fitzgerald, Manager, Environmental Planning, s 9(2)(a)  
[environmentalplanning@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:environmentalplanning@nzta.govt.nz)

## Appendix A - 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>