



BRF-1071

26 January 2022

Jim Stabback  
Chief Executive Officer  
Auckland Council  
Email: [s9\(2\)\(a\)](mailto:s9(2)(a)@auckland.govt.nz)

Dear Jim Stabback

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – Selfs Road, Papatoetoe**

The Minister for the Environment (the Minister) has received an application from Acanthus Limited to refer the Selfs Road project to an expert consenting panel (a panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

The project is described in Attachment A and a copy of the application documents is electronically attached.

Under delegated authority from the Minister and pursuant to section 21(2) of the FTCA, I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application. A template is attached for this purpose. 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.

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 applications or request for comments to anyone outside your organisation.

Specific questions on the application
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?
2. What reports and assessments would normally be required by the Council for a project of this nature in this area?
3. Does the applicant, or a company owned by the applicant, have any environmental regulatory compliance history in your region?

If the Minister accepts the application and the project is referred to a panel, the 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 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 your comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister takes your comments 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



Stephanie Frame  
**Manager, Fast-track Consenting Team**

Attachments:

- A. Details of proposed project
- B. Application to refer the Selfs Road project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information
- C. Response template for written comments

cc: Ian Smallburn, General Manager Resource Consents  
Auckland Council - § 9(2)(a)

**Attachment A – Details of proposed project**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Details</b>
Selfs Road	Acanthus Limited	<p>The project is to subdivide a 3.64-hectare site and construct approximately 115 residential units along with roads and three-waters services.</p> <p>The project will involve activities such as demolition of existing residential buildings, vegetation clearance, earthworks (including disturbing contaminated land), subdivision, constructing residential units, constructing roads and three-waters services, and landscaping.</p>