

In Confidence

Office of the Minister for the Environment

Chair, Cabinet

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 8) 2022

Proposal

- 1 This paper seeks authorisation for submission to the Executive Council of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 8) 2022 (the Amendment Order).
- 2 The Amendment Order amends the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Order 2020 to include as a project referred to an expert consenting panel (panel):
 - 2.1 NZ Windfarms Limited's Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering project (Schedule 50).

Executive Summary

- 3 The COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA) is one of the Government's actions to support New Zealand's economic recovery from COVID-19. The FTCA enables any person to apply to me, as Minister for the Environment, to fast-track certain approvals required under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) for their project.
- 4 Projects that I accept are referred to a panel by an amendment to the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Order 2020, subject to Cabinet's agreement. This allows an applicant to lodge resource consent applications and/or notices of requirement for a designation with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for consideration by a panel.
- 5 Before granting RMA approvals a panel must conduct a merit-based assessment of the project's actual and potential effects and test these against the requirements of both Part 2 of the RMA and the purpose of the FTCA.
- 6 I received an application from NZ Windfarms Limited to fast-track the Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering project.
- 7 The project will redevelop and expand the existing Te Rere Hau wind farm in the Tararua Range south-east of Palmerston North by removing 97 existing 2-blade, 47-metre-high turbines, installing 30 new 3-blade, 162-metre-high turbines and constructing associated infrastructure.
- 8 I sought written comments on the application from the relevant local authorities, relevant Ministers prescribed by the FTCA including the Minister of Energy and Resources, and Transpower New Zealand Limited (Transpower). I considered all

comments received and the report prepared under section 17 of the FTCA. I also requested and considered further information from the applicant.

- 9 I have accepted the project for referral as I am satisfied it meets the eligibility criteria specified in section 18 of the FTCA. It will help to achieve the FTCA's purpose by generating employment, providing infrastructure to improve economic, employment and environmental outcomes and contributing to New Zealand's efforts to mitigate climate change by increasing New Zealand's total amount of renewable energy generation.
- 10 I consider the project will likely progress faster using the FTCA processes than if consents were sought through standard RMA processes, and any actual and potential effects on the environment, together with any measures to mitigate, offset or compensate for adverse effects, can be considered and determined by a panel subject to Part 2 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and the purpose of the FTCA.
- 11 I now seek authorisation for submission of the Amendment Order to the Executive Council. The Amendment Order enables NZ Windfarms Limited to apply via the EPA to a panel for the relevant approvals needed under the RMA for the project, in accordance with the process in the FTCA.

Background

- 12 The FTCA is one of the Government's temporary actions to support New Zealand's economic recovery from COVID-19, by promoting employment and supporting ongoing investment. Access to the FTCA provisions remains in place until the FTCA is repealed in July 2023.
- 13 The FTCA enables any person to apply to me, in my role as Minister for the Environment, to access the fast-track consenting process for their project. If I accept an application, the project is referred by Order in Council – specifically, via an amendment that adds the project as a new schedule to the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Order 2020 – subject to Cabinet's agreement. This allows an applicant to lodge a resource consent application or notice of requirement for a designation with the EPA for consideration and decision by a panel.
- 14 Panels are appointed by Panel Convener Judge Laurie Newhook and are constituted according to the specific representation, skills and knowledge required for the project. Before a panel grants any RMA approvals it must, among other things, consider the comments received from invited parties, assess the project's actual and potential effects, and test these against the requirements of Part 2 of the RMA and the purpose of the FTCA. As part of this process the panel may seek further information from a range of parties, including those invited to comment on the application.
- 15 I receive weekly updates on the projects accessing the fast-track provisions and their progress. To ensure robust oversight of the wider performance of the process, the Ministry for the Environment has commissioned an independent survey and review of FTCA implementation in the context of the FTCA's overall purpose. This will feed into a Ministry report to Treasury on FTCA implementation in 2022.
- 16 As of 12 April 2022, 84 applications have been made under the FTCA to refer projects to a panel, of which:
- 16.1 47 projects have been referred and Orders in Council gazetted. Details are in Appendix one. In summary, for these projects:

- 16.1.1 17 have been granted their RMA approvals by a panel
- 16.1.2 one has had their applications for RMA approvals declined by a panel
- 16.1.3 11 are under active panel consideration
- 16.1.4 16 have yet to lodge their RMA applications
- 16.1.5 two have subsequently decided not to seek their RMA consents through the panel process.
- 16.2 six projects have been accepted for referral and are awaiting Orders in Council. This includes the project that is the subject of this paper
- 16.3 eight referral applications are being processed and are yet to receive referral decisions
- 16.4 16 referral applications have been declined for a range of reasons including not meeting the purpose of the FTCA and it being more appropriate for them to go through the standard RMA consenting process
- 16.5 seven referral applications have been withdrawn by the applicants.
- 17 I am not required to make any referral decisions on projects listed in Schedule 2 of the FTCA. Authorised persons or entities for projects listed in Schedule 2 may lodge their applications for RMA approvals with the EPA at any time while the FTCA provisions are in force. An update on these projects is in Appendix two.

Project for referral: NZ Windfarms Limited's Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering project

- 18 NZ Windfarms Limited applied to use the fast-track consenting process for the Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering project. The project site is located on ridgelines of the Tararua Range north of the Pahiatua Aokautere Road, approximately 11 kilometres south-east of Palmerston North.
- 19 The project is to redevelop and expand the overall footprint of the existing Te Rere Hau wind farm, by removing 97 existing 2-blade, 47-metre-high turbines, installing 30 new 3-blade, 162-metre-high turbines and constructing associated infrastructure. The project scope includes options to upgrade the existing underground transmission line connecting the wind farm to the national electricity grid, or to install a new overhead transmission line.
- 20 The project will involve activities such as:
- 20.1 removing vegetation
 - 20.2 carrying out earthworks (including on potentially contaminated soil)
 - 20.3 removing existing infrastructure including turbines
 - 20.4 upgrading existing roads
 - 20.5 constructing roads and culverts

- 20.6 constructing infrastructure, including hardstand areas, foundations and building pads for turbines and (if a new transmission line is included) electricity transmission structures
- 20.7 installing turbines, underground electricity transmission cables, underground electrical and communication cables, substation and grid connection equipment, and (if a new transmission line is included) electricity transmission structures and overhead electricity transmission lines and associated infrastructure
- 20.8 taking and diverting surface water and groundwater
- 20.9 discharging stormwater and contaminants to land.
- 21 The project requires land use resource consents under the Tararua District Plan and the Palmerston North City District Plan, land use consents, water permits and discharge consents under the Horizons One Plan and resource consents under the Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Freshwater) Regulation 2020.
- 22 To better understand job creation potential, project scope and location, if the applicant had a preferred option for the transmission line and how the project would pass the gateway tests in section 104D of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), I sought further information from NZ Windfarms Limited under section 22 of the FTCA.
- 23 I also sought written comments on the referral application from Palmerston North City Council, Tararua District Council and Horizons Regional Council as the relevant local authorities, relevant Ministers as determined by section 21(6) of the FTCA including the Minister of Energy and Resources, and from Transpower New Zealand Limited.

Overview of comments

- 24 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)
- 25 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)
- 26 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)
- 27 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)

s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)

28 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)

29 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)

30 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)

31 Palmerston North City Council and Horizons Regional Council provided joint comments and considered that the project may be appropriate for referral if the consenting process can enable affected persons to be heard and allow their concerns to be considered. The councils advised that the performance of the wind farm with regard to its consent conditions relating to noise has previously been considered by the Environment Court following many complaints from affected residents. Decisions on appeals to the High Court and Court of Appeal (*New Zealand Windfarms Limited v Palmerston North City Council* [2013] NZHC 1504) and [2014] NZCA 601) determined that the wind farm was not breaching its conditions. The councils noted the potential noise impacts of this project will be of significant interest to affected residents in the vicinity of the wind farm, and to Palmerston North City Council in relation to its consent monitoring and compliance functions. The councils requested that if the project is referred, a panel enables careful consideration of noise-related issues and potential consent conditions.

32 Transpower supported project referral and noted that either upgrading of the existing transmission line (along North Range Road) or construction of a new (overhead) line connection are feasible, subject to significant detailed work. Transpower considered that the project would not be inconsistent with Policy 10 (in particular) of the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission (and thus is in accordance with section 23(5)(c) of the FTCA) provided appropriate management occurs.

Decision

33 In making my decision, and in accordance with section 24 of the FTCA, I considered the application and further information received, all comments and requests for directions to the applicant and a panel provided in response to my invitation, and the eligibility criteria in section 18 of the FTCA. I also considered the report prepared under section 17 of the FTCA.

34 I have decided to accept NZ Windfarms Limited's application for referral of the Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering Project to a panel. I am satisfied the project meets the eligibility criteria in sections 18(2) and 18(3) of the FTCA. I consider it will help achieve the purpose of the FTCA by:


34.1 generating employment by providing approximately 197 direct full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs over a 3-year construction period, and 40 direct ongoing FTE jobs once construction is complete

34.2 providing infrastructure to improve economic, employment and environmental outcomes

34.3 contributing to New Zealand's efforts to mitigate climate change and transition more quickly to a low greenhouse-gas-emissions economy by increasing New Zealand's total amount of renewable energy generation

34.4 progressing faster than would otherwise be the case under standard RMA processes.

35 s 9(2)(f)(ii), s 9(2)(g)(i)



36 The FTCA requires a panel to invite comments from the relevant local authorities, relevant iwi authorities and Treaty settlement entities, specific Ministers, owners and occupiers of adjacent land, specific non-governmental organisations and other groups listed in the FTCA¹. In addition to these requirements and to address matters raised, I have decided to specify a panel must seek comment on NZ Windfarms Limited's resource consent applications from the Minister of Energy and Resources, Ngā Kaitiaki o Ngāti Kauwhata and Transpower, as listed in Appendix three.

37 I consider any actual and potential effects on the environment, together with any measures to avoid, remedy, mitigate, offset or compensate for any adverse effects, can be appropriately tested by a panel against Part 2 of the RMA and the purpose of the FTCA. The additional material listed in Appendix three that must be submitted to a panel will assist with this.

38 I consider there are no reasons to decide under section 24(2) of the FTCA to:

38.1 limit the scope of the project by referring it only in part

¹ Clause 17(6) of Schedule 6, FTCA.

- 38.2 refer the project in stages
- 38.3 place any restrictions on the project
- 38.4 impose specific timeframes for panel consideration.

Timing and 28-day rule

39 Cabinet has agreed to waive the 28-day rule for Orders in Council relating to projects to be referred to a panel². Therefore, the Amendment Order will come into force the day after publication in the New Zealand Gazette. NZ Windfarms Limited may then lodge resource consent applications for the project with the EPA, for consideration by a panel.

Compliance

- 40 The Amendment Order complies with:
- 40.1 the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
 - 40.2 the rights and freedoms contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 or the Human Rights Act 1993
 - 40.3 the principles and guidelines set out in the Privacy Act 2020
 - 40.4 relevant international standards and obligations
 - 40.5 the Legislation Guidelines (2018 edition), which are maintained by the Legislation Design and Advisory Committee.

Regulations Review Committee

41 I do not consider that there are grounds for the Regulations Review Committee to draw this Order in Council to the attention of the House of Representatives under Standing Order 319.

Certification by Parliamentary Counsel Office

42 The Amendment Order has been certified by the Parliamentary Counsel Office as being in order for submission.

Impact Analysis

Regulatory Impact Assessment

43 The Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) requirements for this proposal have been waived. Cabinet has agreed that a RIA is not required for Orders in Council relating to projects to be referred to a panel³.

² ENV-20-MIN-0033 and CAB-20-MIN-0353 refer

³ ENV-20-MIN-0033 and CAB-20-MIN-0353 refer

Climate Implications of Policy Assessment

- 44 The Climate Implications of Policy Assessment (CIPA) team at the Ministry for the Environment has been consulted and confirms that the CIPA requirements⁴ do not apply to the project.

Publicity

- 45 The Amendment Order will be available on the New Zealand Legislation website following its notification in the New Zealand Gazette.
- 46 To meet my obligations under section 25 of the FTCA, I have directed the Ministry for the Environment to make my decision to refer the project to a panel for consideration, the reasons for this decision, and the report obtained under section 17 available to the public on the Ministry for the Environment's website.

Proactive release

- 47 I intend to proactively release this paper on the Ministry for the Environment's website subject to redaction as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Consultation

- 48 The Ministry for the Environment sought comment on this paper from Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Te Puni Kōkiri, Ministry of Education, Department of Corrections, Land Information New Zealand, Treasury, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Ministry for Primary Industries, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Defence, Department of Internal Affairs, Department of Conservation and The Office for Māori Crown Relations – Te Arawhiti.

⁴ CO (20) 3 refers

Recommendations

I recommend that Cabinet:

- 1 **note** that I have decided under section 24 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 to accept the application for referral of NZ Windfarms Limited's Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering project to a panel
- 2 **note** that the project meets the eligibility criteria in section 18(3) of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020, and will help achieve the Act's purpose, as required by section 18(2) of the Act, by:
 - 2.1 generating employment by providing approximately 197 direct full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs over a 3-year construction period, and 40 direct ongoing FTE jobs once construction is complete
 - 2.2 providing infrastructure to improve economic, employment and environmental outcomes
 - 2.3 contributing to New Zealand's efforts to mitigate climate change and transition more quickly to a low greenhouse-gas-emissions economy by increasing New Zealand's total amount of renewable energy generation
 - 2.4 progress faster using the Act's processes than would otherwise be the case under standard Resource Management Act 1991 processes.
- 3 **note** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 8) 2022 requires NZ Windfarms Limited to provide to an expert consenting panel a landscape and visual assessment, options to mitigate effects on the local housing market, a detailed ecological assessment, an acoustic assessment and an integrated transport assessment, as detailed in Appendix three
- 4 **note** that the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 8) 2022 requires an expert consenting panel appointed to consider the project to seek comments from the Minister for Energy and Resources, Ngā Kaitiaki o Ngāti Kauwhata and Transpower New Zealand Limited as listed in Appendix three
- 5 **authorise** submission of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 8) 2022 to the Executive Council
- 6 **note** that on 27 July 2020, Cabinet agreed to waive the standard 28-day rule relating to Orders in Council made under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 [CAB-20-MIN-0353 refers]. Consequently, the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Referred Projects Amendment Order (No 8) 2022 will come into force the day after publication in the New Zealand Gazette.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Appendix one – Referred projects under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

Referred projects with Orders in Council gazetted		
Project - Location	Applicant	EPA Status
Clutha Upper Waitaki Lines Project - Works and Workers' Village - Clutha Upper Waitaki	Transpower New Zealand Limited	Not progressing through FTC
Northbrook Wanaka Retirement Village - Wanaka	Winton Property Limited	Consented by Panel (4 August 2021)
Kohimarama Comprehensive Care Retirement Village - Kohimarama, Auckland	Ryman Healthcare Limited	Consented by Panel (12 May 2021)
Molesworth Street Office Development - Thorndon, Wellington	Prime Property Group Limited	Consented by Panel (12 November 2021)
The Vines Affordable Subdivision - Richmond, Tasman	Jason and Angela Mudgway	Declined by Panel (17 September 2021)
Dominion Road Mixed-use Development - Mount Eden, Auckland	Pudong Housing Development Company Limited, Foodstuffs North Island Limited, and Silk Road Management Limited	Consented by Panel (29 September 2021)
Ohinewai Foam Factory - Ohinewai, Waikato	Ambury Properties Limited	Consented by Panel (24 August 2021)
Eastern Porirua Regeneration Project - Infrastructure Works - Porirua	Kāinga Ora-Homes and Communities' and Porirua City Council	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Silverlight Studios - Wanaka	Silverlight Studios Limited	Consented by Panel (8 December 2021)
Brennan winery, restaurant, education, and event complex - Gibbston Valley, Otago	Otago Viticulture and Oenology Limited's (trading as Brennan Wines)	Not progressing through FTC
Nola Estate - Glen Eden, Auckland	CPM 2019 Limited	Consented by Panel (1 October 2021)
Wooring Tree Estate – Cromwell	Wooring Tree Property Development LP	Consented by Panel (29 September 2021)
Kapuni Green Hydrogen - Kapuni, Taranaki	Hiringa Energy Limited's and Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited	Consented by Panel (1 December 2021)
New Dunedin Hospital – Whakatuputupu – Dunedin Package 1 – enabling works	The Minister of Health's and the Ministry of Health	Consented by Panel (23 December 2021)
New Dunedin Hospital – Whakatuputupu – Dunedin	The Minister of Health's and the Ministry of Health	Lodgement expected mid 2022

Package 2 – buildings		
Faringdon South West and South East Development - Rolleston	Hughes Developments Limited's	Consented by Panel (27 August 2021)
Summerset Retirement Village -Waikanae - Waikanae	Summerset Villages (Waikanae) Limited	Consented by Panel (23 September 2021)
Beachlands Housing Development - Beachlands, Auckland	Neil Construction Limited and Fletcher Residential Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Kōpū Marine Precinct - Kōpū, Thames	Thames-Coromandel District Council	Consented by Panel (9 March 2022)
Whakatāne Commercial Boat Harbour project - Whakatāne	Whakatāne District Council, Te Rāhui Lands Trust, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Awa Group Holdings Limited, Te Rāhui Lands General Partner Limited, Te Rāhui Herenga Waka Whakatane Limited, and Provincial Growth Fund Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Karaka North Village - Karaka, Auckland	Capella Group Limited and Karaka North Village Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Ōmāhu Residential Development - Remuera, Auckland	Urban Resort Limited and Icon Co Pty (NZ) Limited	Consented by Panel (14 February 2022)
George St Mixed Use Development - Newmarket, Auckland	Newmarket Holdings Development Limited Partnership	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Otawere Water Storage Reservoir - Northland	Te Tai Tokerau Water Trust	Under consideration by Panel
Drury Central & Paerata Stations - Auckland	KiwiRail Holdings Limited	Consented by Panel (3 February 2022)
Rangitane Maritime Development - Kerikeri	Far North District Council & Far North Holdings Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Brickfields, Scott Road Development - Hobsonville, Auckland	Aedifice Development Limited	Consented by Panel (24 March 2022)
Melia Place - Whangaparāoa, Auckland	Melia Development Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Tauranga Innovative Courthouse - Tauranga	The Minister of Justice and the Ministry of Justice	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Oruku Landing - Whangārei, Northland	Northland Development Corporation Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Riverbend Residential Development - Napier	Tawanui Developments Limited, K3 Properties Limited & Mana Ahuriri Holdings Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022

Silverlight Studios Accommodation - Wanaka, Otago	Silverlight Studios Limited	Consented by Panel (18 February 2022)
Drury Centre Precinct - Auckland	Kiwi Property Holdings No 2	Under consideration by Panel
Waihoehoe Precinct - Auckland	Oyster Capital Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Drury East Stage 1 Precinct – Auckland	Fulton Hogan Land Development	Under consideration by Panel
Flints Park, Laries Mile – Te Pūtahi, Queenstown	Glenpanel Development Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Federal Street Residences, Auckland	P0012 Auckland NZ Pty Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Bellgrove Development, Rangiora	Bellgrove Rangiora Limited	Under consideration by Panel
Lakeview-Taumata	QT Lakeview Developments Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Summerset Retirement Village, Half Moon Bay, Auckland	Summerset Villages (Halfmoon Bay) Limited	Lodgement expected late 2022
Browns Bay Road Apartments, Auckland	Matvin Group Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Te Tauoma Stage 1B, St Johns, Auckland	Shundi Tamaki Village Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Kaiwharawhara Wellington Ferry Terminal Redevelopment	KiwiRail Holdings Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
The Rotokauri North project, Hamilton	Rotokauri North Holdings Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Tauhei Farm Solar Project, Te aroha	Harmony Energy New Zealand Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
The Hill, Ellerslie, Auckland	Auckland Thoroughbred Racing Incorporated & Fletcher Residential Limited	Lodgement expected late 2022
Ariki Tahī Sugarloaf Wharf Upgrade, Waikato	Ariki Tahī Sugarloaf Wharf Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022
Hananui Aquaculture Project, Foveaux Straight	Ngāi Tahu Seafood Resources Limited	Lodgement expected mid 2022

Appendix two – Status of projects listed in Schedule 2 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

Listed Project	Status
Matawii Water Storage Reservoir Kaikohe	Consents have been approved.
Papakāinga Development – Rāpaki, Christchurch	Consents have been approved.
Te Ara Tupua – Ngā Ūranga to Pito-one shared path	Consents have been approved.
Waitohi Picton Ferry Precinct Redevelopment	Consents have been approved.
Queenstown Arterials Project	Consents have been approved.
Papakāinga Development - Kaitaia	Consents have been approved.
Papakura to Pukekōhe rail electrification	Package 1 - consents have been approved. Package 2 – minor consents - unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.
Papakura to Drury South State Highway 1 improvements	Package 1 - consents have been approved. Package 2 – lodgement anticipated in 2022.
Unitec Residential Development	Lodgement timeframe unknown.
Papakāinga Development – Waitara, Taranaki	Lodgement timeframe unknown.
Northern Pathway – Westhaven to Akoranga shared path	Unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.
Te Pā Tāhuna Residential Development	Unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.
Papakāinga Development - Point Chevalier, Auckland	Unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.
Papakāinga development – Whaingaroa, Raglan	Unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.
Papakāinga Development - Chatham Islands	Unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.
Wellington Metro Upgrade Programme	Unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.
Britomart Station eastern end upgrade	Unlikely to proceed under fast-track at this stage.

Appendix three – Additional requirements specified by the Minister for the Environment under section 24(2) of the FTCA for NZ Windfarms Limited’s Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering Project

NZ Windfarms Limited is required to provide with their resource consent applications to an expert consenting panel:

1. a landscape and visual assessment including visual depictions of the new turbines, and any new pylons and overhead transmission lines, from the west and east of the Tararua Range
2. an assessment of options to mitigate the effects of the project workforce on the local housing market
3. a detailed ecological assessment including –
 - a. analysis of effects on birds, including:
 - i. cumulative effects
 - ii. effects of turbine size
 - iii. effects of turbine rotation speed
 - iv. acoustic effects
 - b. a draft bird-collision monitoring programme
 - c. a lizard survey report
 - d. an assessment of effects on lizards
 - e. a draft lizard management plan
4. an acoustic assessment that includes –
 - a. an assessment of construction and operational noise on the amenity of nearby dwellings in comparison to existing noise levels, and proposed mitigation measures
 - b. methods for monitoring and reporting operational noise and vibration, and reporting and responding to noise complaints
5. an integrated transport assessment that –
 - a. identifies and addresses the effects of additional traffic on the road network during construction including on road safety and maintenance
 - b. identifies how works required to repair construction damage to roads will be funded
 - c. includes information about discussions held, and agreements made, by the authorised person and Palmerston North City Council.

An expert consenting panel appointed to consider NZ Windfarms Limited’s resource consent applications for the Te Rere Hau Wind Farm Repowering Project must seek comments from the following additional persons/organisations:

1. Minister of Energy and Resources
2. Ngā Kaitiaki o Ngāti Kauwhata
3. Transpower New Zealand Limited.