



**6 August 2020**

Ministers of/for:

Arts, Culture, and Heritage, State Owned Enterprises, Māori Crown Relations—Te Arawhiti, Transport, Urban Development, Housing, Energy and Resources, Education, Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, Local Government, Defence, Infrastructure, Climate Change, Conservation and Land Information

Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON

Dear Ministers

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on application for referral**

This letter is sent to you pursuant to section 21(2) of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act).

The aim of the Act is to urgently promote employment to support Aotearoa'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, and meet Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

The proposed project is described in the enclosed schedule, and a copy of the application is electronically attached.

I invite you to provide written comments on the proposed project under section 21(2) of the Act. I note that if this project is referred to an expert consenting panel for determination, the applicant will then be required to lodge a more detailed application including an environmental assessment and cultural impact assessment with the Environmental Protection Authority. You will have a further opportunity at that stage to provide comments on the application to the expert consenting panel.

Please provide your comments via return email within 10 working days if you wish me to take them into consideration when making a decision on whether to refer the application to an expert consenting panel.

Yours sincerely

Hon David Parker  
**Minister for the Environment**

Enclosed:

- A. Schedule of proposed project
- B. Application to refer Clutha Upper Waitaki Lines Project – Project Works and Worker's Village project to an expert consenting panel including supporting information

Released under the provision of  
the Official Information Act 1982

## Appendix A - Schedule of proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Clutha Upper Waitaki Lines Project – Project Works and Worker's Village	Transpower New Zealand Limited	To upgrade existing 220kV electricity transmission lines and construct and use land for a temporary Workers' Village. This project will increase the electricity transmission capacity between the Otago-Southland region and the Waitaki Valley. The works involve strengthening/upgrading parts of the transmission loop.

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