

Application for a project to be referred to an expert consenting panel

(Pursuant to Section 20 of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020)

For office use only:

Project name: Waiuku Wind Farm
Application number: PJ-0000869
Date received: 28/02/2023

This form must be used by applicants making a request to the responsible Minister(s) for a project to be referred to an expert consenting panel under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020.

All legislative references relate to the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act), unless stated otherwise.

The information requirements for making an application are described in Section 20(3) of the Act. Your application must be made in this approved form and contain all of the required information. If these requirements are not met, the Minister(s) may decline your application due to insufficient information.

Section 20(2)(b) of the Act specifies that the application needs only to provide a general level of detail, sufficient to inform the Minister's decision on the application, as opposed to the level of detail provided to an expert consenting panel deciding applications for resource consents or notices of requirement for designations.

We recommend you discuss your application and the information requirements with the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) before the request is lodged. Please contact the Ministry via email: fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz

The Ministry has also prepared [Fast-track guidance](#) to help applicants prepare applications for projects to be referred.

Part I: Applicant

Applicant details

Person or entity making the request: LET Capital Number 3 Limited Partnership

Contact person: Richard John Southworth

Job title: Director

s 9(2)(a)

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Postal address:

17 Inverell Way, Seatoun, Wellington 6022

Address for service (if different from above)

Organisation: 4Sight Consulting Limited

Contact person: Jennifer Valentine

Job title: Technical Director - Planning

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Postal address:

PO Box 911 310, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142

Part II: Project location

The application: does not relate to the coastal marine area

If the application relates to the coastal marine area wholly or in part, references to the Minister in this form should be read as the Minister for the Environment and Minister of Conservation.

Site address / location:

A cadastral map and/or aerial imagery to clearly show the project location will help.

612 Forestry Road, Otatau, 2682

260 Thomson Road, Otatau, 2682

136 Thomson Road, Otatau, 2682

191 Thomson Road, Otatau, 2682

44 Robertson Road, Otatau 2682

76 Robertson Road, Otatau 2682

66 Huarau Way, Otatau, 2682

Road reserve Glenbrook Road

Road reserve Glenbrook-Waiuku Road

Road reserve Waiuku-Otatau Rd, Waiuku

Legal description(s):

A current copy of the relevant Record(s) of Title will help.

Refer to Attachment 2 for Legal Descriptions and Records of Title

Registered legal land owner(s):

- Alan Rae Thomson and Margaret Mary Thomson (66 Huarau Way 44 Robertson Road)

- Oceanview Farms Limited (136, 191 and 260 Thomson Road and 76 Robertson Road)
- Michael Douglas Payne and Rebecca Claire Payne (612 Forestry Road)

Detail the nature of the applicant’s legal interest (if any) in the land on which the project will occur, including a statement of how that affects the applicant’s ability to undertake the work that is required for the project:

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

[Redacted content]

Part III: Project details

Description

Project name: Waiuku Wind Farm

Project summary:

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 2-3 lines) of the proposed project.

To construct and operate a wind farm that supplies electricity to the national grid consisting of:

- o Up to 18 wind turbines with blade tip heights of up to 190 m;
- o Construction of internal access tracks, infrastructure connections and ancillary buildings;
- o Upgrading an existing (or construct a new) transmission line from the site to Waiuku/Glenbrook; and
- o Potentially upgrade existing bridges in the road corridor for overweight vehicles to transport turbine components.

Project details:

Please provide details of the proposed project, its purpose, objectives and the activities it involves, noting that Section 20(2)(b) of the Act specifies that the application needs only to provide a general level of detail.

It is proposed to establish a wind farm at the site known as the Waiuku Wind farm (WWF) to provide renewable electricity to the national grid. The wind farm will have a generation capacity of up to 80 megawatts (MW) with an estimated electricity output of up to 326 gigawatt-hours (GWh) per annum. The wind farm will consist of a maximum of 18 turbines located on the site. Each turbine will have a maximum height of 190 m to blade tip and the blades will be a minimum of 30 m above ground. The turbines being investigated for the site include those with modes that limit operation at pre-defined wind speeds and/or wind directions, and with physical modifications such as blade trailing edges that reduces operational noise. The turbines will be single pole structures with a ground mounted transformer located adjacent. A range of turbine types are being investigated that are suited to the site and fit within the project envelope (discussed below). These options vary in individual MW rating and energy production, and therefore the proposal seeks flexibility to achieve project viability and equivalent MW output with fewer turbines than the full envelope of 18 turbines. Flexibility is important at this stage of the project, as it enables fine-tuning to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects, while still achieving electricity generation targets.

A mix of new and upgraded existing permanent access tracks of aggregate of up to 10 m width will be established to each turbine location. The turbines will be connected to a central electrical collector station via a network of 33 kilovolt (kV) underground electrical cables; fibre optic cables will be contained in the same trench. The collector station building will be approximately 60 x 50 m. An operations and maintenance (O&M) building of approximately 20 x 15 m with a height of up to 8 m will be located with the collector station towards the middle of the site. Two permanent wind monitoring masts of up to 100 m tall with guy wires are also proposed on the site. The remainder of the site, including around the turbines, will continue to be utilised for pastoral farming and cropping purposes meaning the benefits generated by existing land uses on the project site will be unaffected.

The proposal is based on a project envelope approach that enables some flexibility in the final location of turbines and their associated access tracks. The turbines, access tracks and buildings will be located within this defined envelope, however their locations as shown on Attachment 3 are indicative only. The envelope provides a minimum separation distance from turbine locations to dwellings external to the project site and a minimum of 500 m setback from the coastal marine area.

In addition to the project envelope, an Environmental Buffer Zone (EBZ) has been established which excludes development within specific areas of the site. At this stage the EBZ means the following areas will be excluded from the project envelope:

- known archaeological sites;
- locations of Notable Trees (as identified in the district plan);
- significant natural areas; and
- natural inland wetlands.

The EBZ will be refined through the consenting phase of the project, following more detailed investigations, and could extend to include very steep gullies, newly found archaeological sites, etc.

The WWF will connect to the national grid at Glenbrook by way of an upgrade to existing overhead electricity line owned by Counties Energy. The line(s) extend from the site through Otua and via the substation in Waiuku. Alternatively, and if deemed more viable, a new overhead line and associated support structures will be installed in the road reserve between the site and Glenbrook. The parts of this new line that extend through settlement and urban zoned areas will be underground. A detailed assessment will be undertaken prior to the consent application submission to determine the final design.

Earthworks to establish turbine platforms, foundation and crane pads, access tracks and building platforms will be undertaken with maximum 2.5H:1V cut and fill batters. The full extent of earthworks will be determined at detailed design. Excess soil will be disposed of onsite, outside of the EBZ, and re-grassed. During construction some of this excess soil may be stockpiled and/or utilised for temporary construction laydown areas with aggregate, which will then be returned to pastoral grazing following the completion of construction. Erosion and sediment control management measures will be in place during all works, particularly near any waterbodies. Water for construction activities, including dust suppression and concrete batching, will be sourced from surface water or groundwater on the site, or trucked to the site. Concrete required for construction will be transported to the site from Waiuku, or alternatively a temporary concrete batching plant may be located towards the middle of the site. The batching plant will be up to 10 m in height and have a platform area of 100 m x 75 m.

It is anticipated that the turbines will be delivered to the Auckland Port and trucked to the site via the over-dimension vehicle route from State Highway 22 via Glenbrook and Waiuku to the site. This may require the upgrading of several bridges on Glenbrook Road, Glenbrook-Waiuku Road and Waiuku Otua Road to cater for the additional weight. A detailed review of these bridges will be undertaken, together with a survey of the road condition, prior to the consent application submission to determine if the upgrading is required.

Where applicable, describe the staging of the project, including the nature and timing of the staging:

There is no intention to stage the project except for standard construction scheduling of different phases of the development. Should consent be granted, construction will commence within the two year lapse period specified by the legislation. The on-site construction will be carried out over two construction seasons, likely spanning three calendar years. Initial work will involve establishing site offices, plant and laydown areas. Following this, the site

access road, turbine platforms, foundations will be constructed, with the turbines being erected last. These phases may not always follow a uniform sequence across site and may instead occur sequentially. For example, work to establish the access roads, platforms and foundation may occur in a south to north direction across the site or within defined turbine clusters, rather than building all roads, then all platforms, and then all foundations, etc. Independent to the on-site work, upgrades to any road bridges to facilitate transport will be undertaken prior to delivery of turbine materials. The transmission line works will also be undertaken independent of site works and completed prior to connection of the wind farm to the national grid.

Consents / approvals required

Relevant local authorities: Auckland Council, Waikato District Council, Waikato Regional Council

Resource consent(s) / designation required:

Land-use consent, Water permit, Discharge permit

Relevant zoning, overlays and other features:

Please provide details of the zoning, overlays and other features identified in the relevant plan(s) that relate to the project location.

Legal description(s)	Relevant plan	Zone	Overlays	Other features
Allotment 144 and Allotment 199 Parish of Waiuku West (RT 722742)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP - GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP - Rural (Franklin).	PWDP - Waikato River Catchment. OWDP - Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Lot 1 DP 497779 (RT 735893)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Rural (Franklin).	PWDP: Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Schedule 8A; Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Lot 1 Deposited Plan 497891 (RT 736384)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Rural (Franklin).	PWDP: Significant Natural Area, Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Identified Significant Natural Feature; Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Lot 1-2 Deposited Plan 507466 (RT 770979)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Coastal (Franklin); Rural (Franklin); Maioro Mining (Franklin).	PWDP: Coastal Overlay; Sites and areas of significance to Māori; Waikato River Catchment.	Recorded Arch Site (R13/53).

Legal description(s)	Relevant plan	Zone	Overlays	Other features
			OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	
Lot 2 DP 456384 (RT 589747)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Rural (Franklin).	PWDP: Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Allotment 197 Parish of Waiuku West (RT NA7C/1449)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Rural (Franklin).	PWDP: Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Lot 1 Deposited Plan 526041 (RT 843471)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Coastal (Franklin); Rural (Franklin).	PWDP: Coastal Overlay; Site and areas of significance to Māori; Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Recorded Arch Site (R13/52).
Lot 1 DP 448864 (RT 568210)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Rural (Franklin).	PWDP: Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Part Allotment 355 Parish of Waiuku West (RT NA35D/741)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Coastal (Franklin).	PWDP: Coastal Overlay; Site and areas of significance to Māori; Notable trees (1, 2 and 3). OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area.	Recorded Arch Site (R13/29).
Lot 96B PSH of Waiuku West (RT NA35D/742)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Coastal (Franklin).	PWDP: Coastal Overlay. OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area.	Recorded Arch Site (R13/1).

Legal description(s)	Relevant plan	Zone	Overlays	Other features
Lot 3 Deposited Plan 407996 (RT 428319)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Coastal (Franklin).	PWDP: Nil. OWDP: Schedule 8A; Awhitu Rural Management Area.	Nil.
Part Lot 2 DP 22917, Lot 1 DP 116009 and Lot 3 DP 120338 (RT 77D/119)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Coastal (Franklin).	PWDP: Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Lot 2 DP 427487 (RT 508667)	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: GRUZ – General Rural Zone. OWDP: Coastal (Franklin).	PWDP: Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Awhitu Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.
Nil - (Hallidays Bridge) Glenbrook Road	Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	Road.	Arterial Road; Macroinvertebrate Community Index – Rural; High-Use Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Pukekohe Kaawa Aquifer.	Nil.
Nil - (Montgomerie Bridge) Glenbrook Road	Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	Road.	Arterial Road; Macroinvertebrate Community Index – Rural; High-Use Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Pukekohe Kaawa Aquifer.	Nil.
Nil - (Mauku Bridge) Glenbrook Road	Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	Road.	Arterial Road; High-Use Stream Management Areas Overlay; High-Use Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Glenbrook Kaawa Aquifer; Coastal Inundation 1per cent AEP Plus 1m Control – 1m sea level rise; Macroinvertebrate Community Index - Rural.	Nil.

Legal description(s)	Relevant plan	Zone	Overlays	Other features
Nil - (Glenbrook Rd Railway Overbridge) Glenbrook Road	Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	Road.	Arterial Road; Macroinvertebrate Community Index – Rural; High-Use Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Waiuku Kaawa; High-Use Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Glenbrook Volcanic; Quality-Sensitive Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Franklin Volcanic Aquifer; Designations – 6306, Mission Bush Railway Line, KiwiRail.	Nil.
Nil - (Waitangi Bridge north of Pukeoware Rd) Glenbrook-Waiuku Road	Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part).	Road.	Arterial Road; Macroinvertebrate Community Index – Rural; High-Use Stream Management Areas Overlay; High-Use Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Waiuku Kaawa; Quality-Sensitive Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Glenbrook Volcanic; Quality-Sensitive Aquifer Management Areas Overlay – Franklin Volcanic Aquifer.	Nil.
Nil - (Bridge to the south of Waiuku-Otaua Rd / Misa Rd intersection) Waiuku Otaua Road	Proposed Waikato District Plan (PWDP) & Operative Waikato District Plan (OWDP)	PWDP: Road. OWDP: Road.	PWDP: Waikato River Catchment. OWDP: Central Rural Management Area; Waikato River Catchment.	Nil.

Rule(s) consent is required under and activity status:

Please provide details of all rules consent is required under. Please note that Section 18(3)(a) of the Act details that the project **must not include** an activity that is described as a prohibited activity in the Resource Management Act 1991, regulations made under that Act (including a national environmental standard), or a plan or proposed plan.

Relevant plan / standard	Relevant rule / regulation	Reason for consent	Activity status	Location of proposed activity
Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011	10 (2) Restricted discretionary activities	The PSI indicates HAIL activities have occurred on the site in specific locations with the land in these areas likely containing contaminants. A DSI will be undertaken to determine the extent of contaminants and management protocols required and will be provided to the consent authority.	Restricted Discretionary	Part of 612 Forestry Road and part of 66 Huarau Way
Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020	45(2), (4), (5) Construction of specified infrastructure - Discretionary activities	The proposal may involve vegetation clearance and earthworks in or within 10 m of natural wetlands that is for the purpose of constructing specified infrastructure. The proposed earthworks may also result in the taking, use, damming or diversion of water as well as a temporary discharge within 100 m of natural wetlands.	Discretionary	Within 10m and 100m of identified natural wetlands on the site. Within natural wetlands as a result of potential bridge upgrades on Waiuku-Otaua Road, Glenbrook Road and Glenbrook-Waiuku Road.
Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020	71(1) Culverts - Discretionary activities	The proposal will involve the placement of a culvert in, on, over, or under the bed of a river (stream), that may not comply with the permitted activity standards.	Discretionary	Within the unnamed tributaries on the site and potentially as a result of bridge upgrades on Waiuku-Otaua Road, Glenbrook Road and Glenbrook-Waiuku Road.
Waikato Regional Plan	3.3.4.21 Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – The Taking of Surface Water	The proposal may involve the taking of surface water that may not comply with the permitted activity standards. Details to be confirmed during the preparation of the construction methodology.	Restricted Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage.
Waikato Regional Plan	3.3.4.24 Discretionary Activity Rule – Groundwater Takes	The proposal may involve the taking of groundwater that may not comply with the permitted activity standards. Details to be confirmed during	Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage.

		the preparation of the construction methodology.		
Waikato Regional Plan	3.5.4.5 Discretionary Activity Rule – Discharges – General Rule	The proposal may involve the temporary discharge of contaminant into water from the disturbance of contaminated land.	Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage.
Waikato Regional Plan	3.5.11.8 Discretionary Activity Rule – Discharge of Stormwater	The proposal may involve the discharge of stormwater into water or onto land.	Discretionary	Entire site.
Waikato Regional Plan	3.6.4.13 Discretionary Activity Rule – Stop banks, Diversions and any Associated Discharges of Water	The proposal may involve the diversion and subsequent discharge of water that may not comply with the permitted standards.	Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage.
Waikato Regional Plan	3.6.4.14 Discretionary Activity Rule – New Dams/ Damming of Water	The proposal may involve the damming of water that does not meet the permitted standards.	Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage.
Waikato Regional Plan	3.8.4.8 Discretionary Activity Rule – Drilling Below the Water Table	The proposal may involve the drilling of holes below the water table for the turbine foundations.	Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage.
Waikato Regional Plan	4.2.4.4 Discretionary Activity Rule – Structures In, On, Under or Over the Beds of Rivers and Lakes	The proposal may involve the use, erection, reconstruction, placement, extension or removal of structures in or over the bed of a stream for access purposes.	Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage including entire site and potentially Waiuku-Otaua Road.
Waikato Regional Plan	4.2.8.3 Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule – Bridges	The proposal may involve constructing new or upgrading existing bridges situated across site and on Waiuku Otaua Road that may not comply with the permitted activity standards.	Restricted Discretionary	To be confirmed at a later design stage.
Waikato Regional Plan	4.2.9.3 Controlled Activity Rule – Culverts for Catchment Areas Not Exceeding 500 Hectares	The proposal may involve the use, erection, reconstruction, alteration or extension of a culvert for access purposes.	Controlled	Unnamed streams on the site and potentially in Waiuku-Otaua Road for bridge upgrade works.

Waikato Regional Plan	5.1.4.13 Discretionary Activity Rule – Soil Disturbance, Roading and Tracking and Vegetation Clearance	The proposal involves soil disturbance that does not comply with the permitted activity standards.	Discretionary	Entire site and potentially in Waiuku-Otaua Road for bridge upgrade works.
Waikato Regional Plan	5.1.4.15 Discretionary Activity Rule – Soil Disturbance, Roading and Tracking and Vegetation Clearance, Riparian Vegetation Clearance in High Risk Erosion Areas	The proposal may involve soil disturbance, roading and vegetation clearance in a high risk erosion area exceeding 2,000m in length, 1,000 cubic metres in volume and exceeding two hectares in area.	Discretionary	Entire site and potentially in Waiuku-Otaua Road for bridge upgrade works.
Waikato Regional Plan	5.4.3.8 Discretionary Activity Rule – Discharges from Remediation of Contaminated Land	The proposal may involve discharges as a result of the remediation of contaminated land.	Discretionary	Part of 612 Forestry Road and part of 66 Huarau Way
Waikato Regional Plan	6.1.9.2 Discretionary Activity Rule – General Rule	The proposal may involve establishing a concrete batching plant onsite. The operation of the concrete batching plant may involve the discharge of contaminants into air that do not comply with the permitted activity standards.	Discretionary	Potential concrete batching plant location on the site.
Proposed Waikato District Plan	EDIS-R4 – All Zones	The proposal involves transformers and switching stations that may not comply with the permitted activity standards.	Discretionary	Entire site.
Proposed Waikato District Plan	EGEN-R6(1) GRUZ – General Rural Zone	The proposal is for large-scale wind farms located within the GRUZ – General rural zone, not within an Identified Area.	Discretionary (Under Appeal)	Entire site.
Proposed Waikato District Plan	TRPT-R1(2) – Vehicle access for all activities	The proposal will involve the construction of vehicle crossings that may not comply with the permitted activity standards.	Restricted Discretionary (Under Appeal)	To be determined following detailed roading design.
Proposed Waikato District Plan	EW-R21(2) Earthworks – General	The proposal involves earthworks which will exceed the permitted quantities and depth (1000m ³ , 2000m ² ,	Restricted Discretionary (Under Appeal)	Entire site.

		depth of 3m below ground level).		
Operative Waikato District Plan	7.3.1 Natural Hazard Avoidance and Mitigation	The proposal will involve turbines (and potentially other buildings) within 30m of a stream.	Restricted Discretionary	Within 30m of the unnamed tributaries.
Operative Waikato District Plan	9.5.1 Location of Vehicle Crossings	The proposal will involve the construction of vehicle crossings that may not comply with the permitted activity standards.	Restricted Discretionary	To be determined following detailed roading design.
Operative Waikato District Plan	9.5.2 Location of Vehicle Crossings	The proposal may require new vehicle crossing to be installed within 7 metres of the nearest intersection.	Restricted Discretionary	To be determined following detailed roading design.
Operative Waikato District Plan	15.1.2.8 Discretionary Activities	The proposal is for a network utility (electricity generation) and associated ancillary and accessory buildings and activities that is not otherwise provided for.	Discretionary	Entire Site.
Operative Waikato District Plan	15.5.2(ii) – Earthworks throughout the District	The proposal involves earthworks that will exceed the permitted activity quantity and area standards (max rural/ coastal = 250m ³ and 2000m ²).	Restricted Discretionary	Construction access road, turbine platforms, substation/ O&M Platform(s).
Operative Waikato District Plan	51.1.8 Formation	Not all parking and manoeuvring areas may have an all-weather dust free surface.	Restricted Discretionary	Entire site.
Operative Waikato District Plan	51.1.9 Demarcation of Spaces	Not all spaces will be physically demarcated on the ground.	Restricted Discretionary	Entire site.
Operative Waikato District Plan	51.2 Loading Areas and Spaces	Not all manoeuvring areas of loading spaces may comply with the tracking curves or be in an all-weather, dust-free condition.	Restricted Discretionary	Entire site.
Operative Waikato District Plan	51.3 Vehicle Crossings	Vehicle crossings to turbine locations may not meet the standards of Part 9.5 of the Plan.	Restricted Discretionary	Entire site.

Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	E3.4.1(A23) Lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands	Replacement, upgrading or extension of existing structures in the bed of a river or stream may be required for potential bridge upgrades.	Restricted Discretionary	Glenbrook Road and Glenbrook-Waiuku Road.
Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	E26.3.4(A77) Vegetation alteration or removal	If bridge upgrade works are required this may result in vegetation removal that does not meet the permitted standards.	Restricted Discretionary	Glenbrook Road, Glenbrook-Waiuku Road.
Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	E26.5.5.2 General Standards (Earthworks)	If bridge upgrade works are required this may require earthworks that infringe permitted activity standards under Rule E26.5.3.1.	Restricted Discretionary	Glenbrook Road and Glenbrook-Waiuku Road.
Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part)	E36.4.1(A56) Natural hazards and flooding	If bridge upgrade works are required they are within areas of natural hazards and the works are not specifically provided for.	Restricted Discretionary	Glenbrook Road and Glenbrook-Waiuku Road.

Resource consent applications already made, or notices of requirement already lodged, on the same or a similar project:

Please provide details of the applications and notices, and any decisions made on them. Schedule 6 clause 28(3) of the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 details that a person who has lodged an application for a resource consent or a notice of requirement under the Resource Management Act 1991, in relation to a listed project or a referred project, must withdraw that application or notice of requirement before lodging a consent application or notice of requirement with an expert consenting panel under this Act for the same, or substantially the same, activity.

No previous resource consent applications or notice of requirements have been made for this project.

Resource consent(s) / Designation required for the project by someone other than the applicant, including details on whether these have been obtained:

No other resource consents are required by another party for this project. There are no designations associated with this project.

Other legal authorisations (other than contractual) required to begin the project (eg, authorities under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 or concessions under the Conservation Act 1987), including details on whether these have been obtained:

An Archaeological Authority to carry out an exploratory investigation will be sought from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga to enable archaeological investigation and geotechnical investigation work. An Archaeological Authority will also be obtained prior to any construction works commencing on site in the event that any unknown sites are discovered during works and if during investigation works non-significant sites are discovered and need to be altered.

Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) approval will be obtained for the wind turbines prior to the commencement of construction. This is necessary due to their height above ground level which may cause a hazard in navigable airspace.

CAA approval has already been obtained for the installation of a temporary meteorological monitoring mast on the land.

Permission under the Wildlife Act 1953 will be obtained from the Department of Conservation (DoC) for the relocation and management of any native lizards or bats, if required.

Grid connection approval from Transpower New Zealand Ltd for connection to the national grid and from Counties Energy for connection to their network will be obtained as part of the final design of the transmission route upgrade and connection works. Approvals will also be obtained from the Electricity Authority to participate in the electricity market.

Corridor Access Requests and overweight/over dimension vehicle permits will be obtained from Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency, Auckland Transport (AT) and Waikato District Council (WDC) for the use of the roads to transport construction material and turbine components, for any required bridge upgrade works, works associated with transmission lines. Vehicle entranceway approval will be obtained from WDC for the establishment of new vehicle crossings.

Requiring authority approval will be obtained from KiwiRail should works be required to upgrade the bridge on Glenbrook Road over the existing KiwiRail Mission Bush Railway Line and any other necessary approvals for this work..

Construction readiness

If the resource consent(s) are granted, and/or notice of requirement is confirmed, detail when you anticipate construction activities will begin, and be completed:

Please provide a high-level timeline outlining key milestones, e.g. detailed design, procurement, funding, site works commencement and completion.

The Applicant is focused on bringing the proposal to the construction phase as soon as possible following the grant of consent.

The Applicant's directors have financial capacity to make a significant contribution to the entire project. They have been fully funding the project to date and expect to continue that funding approach until the conclusion of its application. The directors have extensive large project financing experience in New Zealand, and have been engaging with possible mainstream finance partners as part of their regular business activities. Possible funders have been receiving project updates over the past 12 months.

The Applicant has specifically chosen the fast-track consenting process to get to build readiness quicker than traditional consenting process.

The Applicant will develop the project to a high level of detailed design through the consenting phase. However, following the grant of consent, a further 12 month (approximately) final negotiation and detailed design phase is necessary with the preferred turbine supplier. Such immediate negotiation is not usually possible under the usual RMA consenting process until all Environment Court appeals are settled. By simplifying the consent process, the Covid-19 (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA) process provides greater certainty for both the Applicant and supplier and enables negotiations to start sooner.

The Applicant is engaging with two prominent suppliers with established operations in New Zealand on turbine supply. The Applicant has executed confidentiality agreements with a range of parties, including turbine manufacturers through to specialised project management providers. The Applicant has access to detailed information to make available turbine specifications during referral and consenting process, and support through detailed design to procure a turbine most suitable for the project site and wind resource.

Upon completion of the detailed design phase, the Applicant will commence construction of the wind farm on an approximately 450-day schedule. Initial site establishment is projected to take approximately one month. Subsequent construction activities will span two construction seasons of approximately 200 days each. During each season, specific activities relating to site roads and platforms including earthworks and cabling will occur. Within each season the works associated with foundations is expected to take up to 90 days..

If construction were to commence 18 months following grant of the consent, it would be completed by the end of 2027.

Part IV: Consultation

Government ministries and departments

Detail all consultation undertaken with relevant government ministries and departments:

- Department of Conservation
- The Office for Māori Crown Relations – Te Arawhiti
- Ministry for the Environment (MfE)

Local authorities

Detail all consultation undertaken with relevant local authorities:

- Waikato Regional Council
- Waikato District Council

Other persons/parties

Detail all other persons or parties you consider are likely to be affected by the project:

- Transpower New Zealand Limited
- Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency
- Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Auckland International Airport Limited
- Counties Power
- Auckland Council (including Auckland Transport (AT))
- Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua
- Ngāti Tamaoho
- Waikato Tainui
- New Zealand Police (private gun range users)
- Waiuku Pistol Club
- Waiuku Airsoft Range
- Local hang-gliding clubs
- Owners/ occupiers of all relevant adjacent properties including:
 - o 360, 430, 500, 522 Forestry Road
 - o Forestry Road (ALLT 27-34, 39-42, 74 SUBURBAN SEC 2 & ALLT 364 PASH OF WAIUKU WEST & LOT 1-3 DP 486250)
 - o 69, 83, 99 Motion Road West
 - o 102 Motion Road East
 - o 102 Perry Road
 - o 334, 350, 383, 388, 396, 400 Maioro Road
 - o 64, 100, 108, 164, 111, 178 Thomson Road
 - o Thomson Road (LOT 96A BLK WAIUKU WEST PARISH)
 - o 25, 73, 76, 112 Robertson Road
 - o Robertson Road (Pt Allot 140 Waiuku West SD)
 - o 42A, 42B, 42C, 42D, 42E 44 Huarau Way
 - o 534, 449, 600, 612, 706, 710 Whiriwhiri Road
 - o 23, 48, 58, 59 Bird Road
 - o 358, 399, 450, 473 Brothwell Park Road
 - o Bothwell Park Road (Lot 1 Stan Denize Scenic Park)
 - o Ghezzi Road (ALLT 27 2 WAIUKU WEST SD, ALLT 28 2 WAIUKU WEST SD, ALLT 29 2 WAIUKU WEST SD)

The list of persons may be amended depending on the outcome of the more substantive visual effects assessment that will be undertaken prior to lodgement of the consent application.

Detail all consultation undertaken with the above persons or parties:

Initial engagement has been undertaken with the majority of the parties listed above. This has included the provision of a project description outlining the project location and scale. Details were also provided describing the approach adopted to consent a project envelope, upgrades to local roads, including internal access roads, the potential for on-site concrete batching, transmission infrastructure and anticipated earth works. In addition, a list of the environmental assessments being undertaken was provided.

Department of Conservation (DoC) The project description was sent to, and an initial teams meeting held with the Team Leader RMA. The Applicant has also requested data relating to bittern and other domestic migrants DoC has and which is relevant to the project site and information DoC may have regarding godwit and turnstone. Following our initial meeting, we were referred to a support officer to obtain the data. On 16/02/23 DoC responded to the information request advising that they do not support the proposal being considered under the FTCA (see Attachment 6). The matters and potential effects raised by DoC are being addressed and managed by the project team and will be fully assessed through the consenting process.

Te Arawhiti – The Office for Māori Crown Relations Initial engagement occurred on 6/12/22. Despite our understanding that the Minister will invite Te Arawhiti to provide information relating to any Treaty settlements or related provisions relevant to the proposed site, we considered it important in supporting our Iwi engagement planning to have this information early. The information received has assisted in guiding our initial Iwi engagement. Waikato Regional Council (WRC) A pre-application meeting was held with the Team Leader Policy Implementation, Team Leader Consenting and a Consenting Officer on 21/12/22. The outcomes of the meeting confirmed our initial consent requirement assessment was accurate and assessments we had commissioned for the referral and subsequent consenting were appropriate. Important factors WRC noted were the possibility of earthworks in high erosion risk areas, potential upgrades to culverts or bridges, and any necessary consents for water or groundwater diversion. WRC also noted the importance of managing fill and fill areas and giving consideration to council flood drainage assets. It was agreed that once more information had been developed, we would meet again. This meeting is intended to be undertaken post the lodgement of the referral application.

Waikato District Council (WDC) A pre-application meeting was held with the Consents Manager and Area Team Leader on 25/01/23. WDC agreed with our consents assessment but noted they would undertake a more detailed assessment. WDC did not raise any issues and following discussion on Iwi engagement, agreed the Applicant was engaging with the key parties to the best of their knowledge. WDC noted that roading may be challenging based on previous experience with a wind farm application to the south of Port Waikato. This was acknowledged and the Applicant confirmed a full traffic impact assessment would be undertaken as part of the consenting process. It was agreed that engagement with the WDC roading manager should be undertaken in due course. As no public consultation had yet occurred it was agreed that an initial briefing would be held with WDC elected members. WDC noted that their involvement in the fast-track consenting process is sometimes quite limited with little or no expert engagement on their behalf. A meeting with elected representatives of WDC, the Roading Manager and Council planning staff was held on 22/02/23 to introduce the Applicant and the project to them. Matters raised included impact on the roading network and extent of public engagement. Following this a separate meeting is being arranged between the council roading team and our traffic specialists.

Transpower New Zealand Limited The Applicant undertook initial high level discussions with the Customer Connections Project Director in August 2022 regarding the connection to the national grid at Glenbrook.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga A pre-application meeting was held with HNZPT on 12/01/23 with the Regional Archaeologist, Māori Heritage Advisor and Regional Archaeologist. The outcome of the engagement was that HNZPT would need to be involved through the consenting phase and would process any archaeological authority applications. The Applicant acknowledged that they would likely need to apply for an authority to facilitate the construction of the wind farm and ensure any special heritage sites were protected. The Applicant confirmed that as per the current wind farm design, all known archaeological and heritage sites were avoided.

Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) The Applicant has applied for and received CAA approval under Part 77 of the Act to install a wind monitoring mast on the project site. The permission expires on 23/01/24.

Counties Energy (CE) The Applicant has had multiple engagements with CE initially to obtain data to carry out a grid connection study and then later to discuss the grid connection options and potential to upgrade the existing Counties Energy 33 kV network. The meeting was held with the Network Development Manager and the Senior Network Planning Engineer. The outcome of the meeting was that connection for the project to the network would not be a barrier. It will require upgrades to the existing network and some careful planning to deliver. CE have committed to working with the Applicant to develop the connection of the project to the Glenbrook Substation via the CE local transmission network.

Iwi consultation Discussed in Part V.

Part V: Iwi authorities and Treaty settlements

For help with identifying relevant iwi authorities, you may wish to refer to [Te Kāhui Māngai – Directory of Iwi and Māori Organisations](#).

Iwi authorities and Treaty settlement entities

Detail all consultation undertaken with Iwi authorities whose area of interest includes the area in which the project will occur:

Iwi authority	Consultation undertaken
Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua	The Applicant's engagement has focussed on Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua (Ngāti Te Ata), whom have stated they are the Manawhenua iwi of Awhitu/Waiuku. A hui was held in Waiuku on 31 January 2023 with Ngāti Te Ata Chairman, Riki Minhinnick, George Flavell (Kaumatua), Karl Flavell (Environment Manager), and Paora Puru (Kaitiaki). Ngāti Te Ata have confirmed that they are open to work collaboratively with the Applicant providing that no waahi tapu, taonga, heritage sites and resources are adversely impacted upon. To this end Ngāti Te Ata has agreed to provide a Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) as meaningful engagement moving forward. Further meetings will also be held as the process progresses and an upcoming site visit has been organised for 6 March 2023.
Ngāti Tamaoho	Ngāti Tamaoho have responded to our initial provision of the project description and indicated they will respond in due course on how they wish to proceed. No further response has been received.
Waikato-Tainui	Waikato-Tainui has indicated an interest in a hui. This will be arranged as part of the next phase of iwi engagement.
Te Ākitai Waiohua, Ngāti Tahinga and Ngāti Kārewa	Te Ākitai Waiohua, Ngāti Tahinga Ngāti Kārewa have been identified as potentially interested and will be contacted as part of the next phase of the Applicant's engagement

Detail all consultation undertaken with Treaty settlement entities whose area of interest includes the area in which the project will occur:

Treaty settlement entity	Consultation undertaken
N/A	

Treaty settlements

Treaty settlements that apply to the geographical location of the project, and a summary of the relevant principles and provisions in those settlements, including any statutory acknowledgement areas:

Section 18(3)(b) of the Act details that the project **must not include** an activity that will occur on land returned under a Treaty settlement where that activity has not been agreed to in writing by the relevant land owner.

Te Arawhiti has advised that Waikato Tainui, Upper Waikato River Iwi, Tāmaki Collective and Ngāti Tamaoho have treaty settlements that may be of relevance. Ngāti Te Ata and Ngāti Koheriki may also have interest in the area however they have not yet settled their historical Treaty claims. We have also reviewed the Waikato Regional Iwi Information website that identifies the Tāmaki Collective Deed of Settlement relates to the sites. While the treaty settlements concluded to date provide helpful context and background to potential interests, review of the completed treaty settlements identified that none of the settlements relate to private land.

Part VI: Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011

Customary marine title areas

Customary marine title areas under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 that apply to the location of the project:

Section 18(3)(c) of the Act details that the project **must not include** an activity that will occur in a customary marine title area where that activity has not been agreed to in writing by the holder of the relevant customary marine title order.

N/A

Protected customary rights areas

Protected customary rights areas under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 that apply to the location of the project:

Section 18(3)(d) of the Act details that the project **must not include** an activity that will occur in a protected customary rights area and have a more than minor adverse effect on the exercise of the protected customary right, where that activity has not been agreed to in writing by the holder of the relevant protected customary rights recognition order.

N/A

Part VII: Adverse effects

Description of the anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment, including greenhouse gas emissions:

In considering whether a project will help to achieve the purpose of the Act, the Minister may have regard to, under Section 19(e) of the Act, whether there is potential for the project to have significant adverse environmental effects. Please provide details on both the nature and scale of the anticipated and known adverse effects, noting that Section 20(2)(b) of the Act specifies that the application need only provide a general level of detail.

All reports discussed below are attached or can be provided on request.

Archaeology An initial archaeological report by Clough & Associates confirming potential adverse effects on archaeological values can be avoided or minimised. No works will be undertaken on recorded archaeological sites; field investigations will be undertaken to determine if any other sites are present and need to be avoided. Protocols will be in place during works and an Authority obtained from HNZPT prior to works commencing.

Cultural values The Applicant is undertaking engagement with mana whenua with Ngāti Te Ata preparing a CIA. Should other iwi also wish to prepare a CIA, this will be facilitated.

Productive land A small part of the site is identified as containing Class 3 Soils. The productive capability and capacity of the land will not be affected by the proposal. Under the current layout the turbines and platforms will be outside this Class 3 land however new tracks will be formed through it for use by the WWF and for farming. Should turbine locations be moved through further design, locating of turbines on this land will be minimised. Following construction of the turbines and infrastructure the site will continue to be utilised for farming. Adverse effects on the productive potential of the land are negligible.

Contaminated Land A PSI by 4Sight states the area of turbine sites 10 and 15 have had identified HAIL activities occurring in the form of previous gun club activities. A DSI will be undertaken within these areas prior to soil disturbance that will set out appropriate protocols and procedures to be in place during work to ensure adverse effects on human health are avoided.

Earth/Streamworks A geotechnical desktop report by CMW Geosciences has not identified any significant natural hazards. A civil infrastructure report by BBO has determined indicative locations of onsite access roads, size of turbine foundation areas and building locations taking into the site constraints. Earthworks will be balanced cut to fill where possible with excess soil disposed of on other parts of the site which may be created as temporary laydown areas with aggregate before being reinstated as grass. Earthworks will be carried out in accordance with best practice measures to minimise discharge of sediment laden water from the work sites. For works in watercourses on the site temporary dams, diversions and water takes will be used to facilitate culvert placement. Best practice will be used during low flow conditions, including fish relocation as required and water intake mesh screens. A concrete batching plant may operate on site to enable the efficient supply of concrete to construct the turbine footings and associated infrastructure. It will be located so process wash water will be managed to prevent high pH and sediment laden water discharges to surface water. Post construction, accessways will remain to provide ongoing access to the turbines. Using compacted basecourse, stormwater runoff from accessways will discharge to surrounding pasture in a diffuse manner to minimise erosion and channelisation. Contaminant generation will be negligible. Culverts will be operated and maintained to minimise erosion and maintain fish passage where appropriate. Any potential road bridge upgrade works will be undertaken in accordance with best practice measure to ensure removal of vegetation is minimised and water quality and hydrology of the streams is not affected. Overall, adverse effects can be avoided or minimised.

Construction traffic A Route Feasibility Study by BBO confirms a suitable route from Auckland Port to the site via SH22, Glenbrook and Maoro for delivery of turbine materials. Further review will be undertaken to determine if any road bridges require upgrading to support overweight vehicles. All construction traffic will be managed through a CTMP; effects on the transport network can be appropriately managed so as not to be significant.

Construction Noise An initial acoustic memo prepared SLR confirms that due to the large separation distances, noise from anticipated construction activities will comply with relevant limits. The batching plant, if required, will comply with day and night-time construction noise levels. An acoustic report will be provided with the consent application.

Terrestrial & Freshwater Ecology An initial ecological report by 4Sight included fieldwork, monitoring and desktop assessment. The proposal is likely to result in removal of small areas of scrub or gully vegetation for access roads and potentially a turbine. This will have a low effect, can be minimised and any residual effects offset by enhancement of remaining vegetation through weed and pest control or additional planting if necessary. It is unlikely that notable populations of native skink will be common through the proposed access and construction area however further surveys will be undertaken and a lizard management plan implemented if lizards found. Katipō spiders may be present in the foredune habitats however the turbines are sufficiently set back that they will be unaffected. Two small lakes, a number of wetlands, small tributaries, modified watercourses and drainage channels are present on the site. The EBZ includes the lakes and wetlands. There is the potential for indirect impacts on these waterbodies due to earthworks nearby, this will be avoided or minimised through good design and implementation of best practice sediment control. There are likely to be longfin eels and potentially other fish present in the watercourses on the site, as well as riparian vegetation. Works will be required for the access road formation including the installation or extension of culverts within these areas. Best practice measures during construction and good design practice as well as native fish monitoring and management will ensure adverse effects are minimised. The report concludes that significant adverse ecological effects are not anticipated. If road bridge upgrade works are required, ecological reviews of these areas will be undertaken and appropriate protocols imposed during construction to minimise adverse effects on the ecological values of these areas.

Avifauna An initial report of cumulative collision on avifauna has been undertaken by Boffa Miskell and Bluewattle Ecology. The desktop modelling and assessment has sought to estimate the likely collision risk for all threatened or at-risk avian species known to be present in the local area and likely to be present at the site. The review has taken into account the effects on avifauna from the Awhitu Wind Farm (AWF) to the north which is partially constructed (however it is noted no collision risk modelling was undertaken for this facility at the time of consent). The report has also considered the letter from DoC. The study has relied on field work undertaken for the consented HMR wind farm (but never built) south of the site, and other consented wind farms in NZ as well as information from eBird. Because it is a desktop study, a level of conservatism has been added to the model. Validation of the modelling results will be

undertaken through comprehensive and standardised field studies prior to submission of the consent. The review has determined there are 76 bird species within this section of the coast. Of those 76 bird species, only 29 have national conservation status and of those 29, a further 12 species have been disregarded because of their known flight behaviour and/or preferred habitat, local distribution or low abundance. As such, there are 17 species that have been addressed through the collision risk modelling. From this and considering the potential effects of the AWF, there are 3 species that are at moderate risk with more than 1 predicted collision per annum; the South Island pied oystercatcher, the pied shag and the little shag. Four species are at low level risk due to predicted collisions of between 1 every 2 years and 1 every 5 years: the wrybill, godwit, little black shag and black shag. The remaining species will have negligible to very low effects with a predicted collision between 5 and more than 25 years. While there is a low collision risk to overall seabird species, there are 4 at-risk seabird species with small populations that may cross the site for foraging. These are the NZ storm petrel, the black petrel, Pycroft's petrel and the flesh-footed shearwater. As part of the further investigations to determine the collision risk of coastal and non-coastal birds, these species will be given specific consideration. The report concludes: *We are satisfied that this stage, that effects will not be significantly adverse based on the thresholds used. However, for some species there will be low to moderate levels of adverse effects which need to be confirmed through further site investigation.* Should the site investigation determine that there are low to moderate effects on these species then mitigation and offsetting is proposed. Given for each species and location mitigation and offsetting measures are different no specific measures are offered at this time. However, there are a range of measures that have been utilised for other wind farm projects, e.g. pest and predator control at breeding sites; such measures can and will be used if and as required. For these reasons it is considered that potential adverse effects on avifauna can be appropriately managed and will not be significant.

Bats A preliminary report of effects on long-tailed bats and their habitats for the site has been prepared by Bluewattle Ecology which is supported by acoustic bat monitoring undertaken by 4Sight. Long-tailed bats are present within and around the site, it is suggested due to activity levels that there are commuting and foraging sites in the site, and likely a roost site within the adjacent Waiuku pine forest. Construction activities are not likely to have an effect on bats; best practice pre-felling tree protocols will be adopted if any trees are required to be removed. Bats may be at moderate to high risk of turbine strike during wind farm operation, unmitigated this would be a very high level of effect. Site- and species-specific research will be undertaken during the consenting phase, this will determine the avoidance, remediation and mitigation measures that can be employed to reduce strike, including development of a Bat Management Response Plan. If effective the level of effect would reduce to moderate and residual effects management, including pre- and post- monitoring/adaptive management regime and additional offsets or compensation as required.

Landscape & natural character A preliminary landscape, visual and coastal natural character effects report (landscape report) has been prepared by Boffa Miskell. This report has involved an initial site walkover and review of the relevant reports for the AWF to the north of the site. The proposed turbine envelope area is not located within an area of identified landscape significance. However, the western part of the site is located within the Coastal Environment overlay. The presence of the AWF, albeit currently 1 turbine, means turbines are not a new element in the nearby coastal landscape. Considering the conclusions reached regarding the AWF, while there will be an effect on natural character, this will not be significantly adverse and the underlying natural landscape and existing land use remains dominant. While there will be adverse effects on the physical landscape from the earthworks and structures, these effects are unlikely to be significant because as the overall rural landscape will be retained and effects can be mitigated through collaborative design and mitigation measures. Regarding potential cumulative adverse effects on landscape and natural character from 2 wind farms, given the physical and visual separation between AWF and WWF, it is unlikely there will be significant adverse cumulative landscape character and natural effects. Overall while the proposed turbines and associated features will have an adverse effect on the natural character of the coastal environment and the landscape character of the area, such adverse effects are not likely to be significant.

Visual The landscape report has considered the potential visual effects of the project from public viewpoints and private dwellings. Due to the size of the turbines they will be visible from public roads and private dwellings, however this does not automatically equate to adverse visual effects. There are a number of dwellings nearby that are outside the project site, but within 1km of the proposed turbine location (and several within 500 m of proposed turbine locations). Regarding public roads and other public locations, including parts of the coast, potential visual effects are unlikely to be significant due to the viewing distance and separation involved as well as some localised screening. However, it is expected that the inland group of turbines in the north-eastern part of the site will have the greatest

level of visual effects on dwellings outside the project site. Without mitigation, these effects could be significant. Prior to consent lodgement, detailed assessments including preparation of visual simulations from specific dwellings will be undertaken to illustrate the level of visibility and scale of visual effects. This will also determine the orientation of dwellings and whether any existing vegetation or topography screening exists. In some cases, tree-planting or recontouring of the landform may assist with the mitigation of visual effects. Along with establishing visual buffers for some dwellings, it may be necessary to relocate or remove completely some turbines to reduce the scale of potential effect. It is acknowledged by the Applicant that this further assessment may result in a reduction in turbine numbers, however, as noted earlier, a range of turbines are being investigated so this does not necessarily result in a reduction in electricity generation. Overall, while it is recognised the wind turbines have the potential to have significant adverse visual effects on some dwellings, there are mitigation measures available, including ultimately the removal of turbines, that means potential effects will be able to be reduced below a significant level.

Shadow flicker The landscape report has addressed potential shadow flicker effects. Such effect is dependent on a number of factors. A full review will be undertaken as part of the substantive assessment which will include maps showing the Zone of Influence of each turbine. This review will determine the extent of potential adverse effects and consider mitigation measures such as planting and land recontouring to reduce effects and potentially adjustments to the turbine layouts or reduction in turbine numbers. Such review will be undertaken in conjunction with the visual effects assessment on these dwellings and ensure effects are at a reasonable level.

Operational Noise SLR has undertaken desktop modelling of potential operational noise of the turbines against NZS6806:2010 *Acoustics – Wind farm noise (NZS6806)*. The review considered the likely location of the turbines and the location of the nearest dwellings external to the site. There are several options to control noise from wind farm operations if necessary to comply with NZS6806 including reduced noise/power modes, blade modifications or quieter turbines. Given the mitigation options available the proposed 18 turbine layout will be able to comply with NZS6808 limits. As such the noise levels from the operation of the turbines will be at an acceptable level.

Transmission Line The WWF will connect to the national grid at the Glenbrook substation as there is sufficient capacity and a connection point at the transformer. A Feasibility Study Report prepared by ADP Engineering in liaison with CE determined the capacity and capability of the existing local network to provide the connection to Glenbrook. This identified that the existing local network will need upgrading to support the additional load. Further detailed review and design will be undertaken to determine the extent of upgrade and replacement work to enable the connection. Alternatively, a new electricity line and associated support structures will be installed from the site to Glenbrook, likely utilising a different road corridor to the existing line. The (upgraded or new) transmission line will be designed in accordance with the relevant permitted activity requirements. Engagement will occur with CE and roading authorities to determine the appropriate route. Overall, the connection to Glenbrook is feasible through either an upgraded or new line, and through detailed design the most effective route that minimises potential effects can be confirmed.

Greenhouse gas emissions The electricity generation from the wind farm will not release greenhouse gases and provides a positive relationship for activities that are reliant on electricity to reduce their emissions. While the construction phase of the project will result in greenhouse gas emissions through materials production and transport; the transport emissions will be minimised due to the proximity of the site to an urban area that can supply the labour force and the relative proximity of the Auckland Port. As such effects on greenhouse gas emissions are low.

Part VIII: National policy statements and national environmental standards

General assessment of the project in relation to any relevant national policy statement (including the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement) and national environmental standard:

National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation 2011 (NPS-REG)

The NPS-REG recognises the national significance of renewable electricity generation activities and the benefits that it provides. Relevant policies are addressed below.

Policy A: Wind is a natural and inexhaustible source of energy that avoids reliance on imported fuels and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. The proposal will contribute to the diversification of electricity generation in New Zealand

and increase the security and capacity of supply. Policy B: The proposal provides for a significant electricity generation activity that will generate enough power to meet the electricity requirements for approximately 47,000 NZ homes each year, contributing to the national target for renewable energy. Policy C: Through a process of site investigation in various areas of the country, the Applicant found that the Waiuku site is an ideal site for wind farm generation due to its proximity to nearby grid connection, accommodating topography and wind levels, and proximity to the urban area of Auckland. Should significant adverse effects result from the proposal that cannot be mitigated offsetting will be used. Overall, the proposed wind farm has to be located in an area of appropriate wind source; it provides significant benefits by increasing the provision of renewable energy generation.

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM)

The WWF meets the definition of specified infrastructure as electricity generation activities are recognised as regionally significant infrastructure in the Waikato Regional Policy Statement (RPS) see Legal Opinion in Attachment 5. The turbines, access roads and buildings will avoid all identified natural inland wetlands and lakes, however some of the proposed earthworks particularly for access tracks may need to be located within 10m of a wetland or lake and there is the potential for degradation from inflow of contaminated stormwater and sediment runoff. Potential road bridge upgrade works may also be located within or adjacent wetlands. Any potential adverse effects on wetland habitats that may result from the proposal will be managed through application of the effects management hierarchy. There will be no loss of natural wetlands on the site, and the values of the existing wetlands will be protected. Any temporary effects associated with required earthworks can be suitably managed through appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and good design of roads and structures. If residual effects are identified these will be managed through wetland enhancement and protection. All works within or near streams to provide access will be undertaken to minimise riparian vegetation removal and effects on water quality and stream habitat. Monitoring and management of native fish will occur. This ensures the values of these freshwater systems are retained.

National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 (NPS-HPL)

The site contains an area of land identified as Class 3 as shown on page 3 of Attachment 4 and is zoned rural. As above the WWF meets the definition of specified infrastructure. The NPS-HPL provides a pathway for the use and development of specified infrastructure. While the WWF is new infrastructure based on the current layout no turbines themselves, or buildings, will be located on Class 3 soils. New access tracks will extend through this area however they will be dual purpose and able to be used for farming activity. There is a functional and operational need for the wind farm to be in a location of consistent and unobstructed wind, such as this western coastal location. In addition, the proposal needs to be accessible to an available national grid connection point such as that at Glenbrook. In terms of clause 3.9(3) the wind turbines will allow the site to continue to be effectively used for primary production purposes with no reverse sensitivity effects. Any loss of land productivity has been minimised and the aim is to ensure it will be for access tracks only.

New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS)

The site is adjacent the coast, and a number of turbines are proposed within the Coastal Environment overlay. The project area does not include any area of outstanding natural landscape or feature, nor any identified area of high natural character. The following objectives and policies are considered most relevant to the proposal. Objective 1 seeks to safeguard the integrity, form, functioning and resilience of the coastal environment and sustain its ecosystems, relevant to this project is by “protecting representative or significant natural ecosystems and sites of biological importance”. Objective 6 is relevant as it recognises some uses and development depend on the use of physical resources in the coastal environment that are important to people and communities social, economic and cultural wellbeing and that the coastal environment contains renewable energy resources of significant value. Policy 6: The location of the wind farm on private land, with turbines set back from the coastal foreshore ensures that public access to the coast is not undermined, nor the open space of the coastal area. The landscape assessment considers that the wind farm is not likely to have significant effects on the natural character of the coastal environment, and the presence of the AWF means that such structures are not a new element in this coastal environment. Areas of identified significant biodiversity and significant archaeological sites will be avoided through the proposed EBZ. Policy 11: From the ecological assessments undertaken neither the turbines, nor access tracks, will be located on land of ecological significance. No ecologically significant vegetation has been identified within the project envelope. The preliminary avifauna assessment identifies there will be adverse effects for some threatened or at-risk avifauna species due to collision mortality, this desktop modelling was conservative and potentially overestimates risk. The

Applicant has engaged experts to undertake further field assessments that test the assumptions used and the modelled level of risk, and to determine the likely scale of effect on avifauna and recommend measures to manage those effects. Monitoring data suggests bats are present within and near the site predominantly in the adjacent Waiuku Forest. Further site-and species- specific assessment will be undertaken and a BMPR developed to avoid, remedy and mitigate potential effects and impose appropriate mitigation and offsetting measures identified.

Policy 13 : The landscape assessment considers it not likely there will be significant adverse effects on the natural character of the coastal environment and the extent of such effects will be determined as part of the substantive assessment.

Policy 15: he site does not contain any identified natural features or landscapes within the coastal environment area. While there will be a visual change to the landscape it will continue to be used for farming purposes ensuring the overall characteristic of the landscape itself does not change and therefore not result in significant adverse effects.

Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020

The relevant provisions of the NES-F are being considered as part of this proposal and any adverse effects relating to freshwater can be suitably managed to the extent they will not be significant. In particular further onsite assessments will be undertaken where culverts are proposed to determine the presence of fish; culverts will be designed to cater for fish where required. All works on the site will avoid wetlands, and while there may be works close to wetlands these will be undertaken in accordance with best practice sediment control methods and through good design to avoid adverse effects on the water quality and hydrological function of these wetlands .

Resource Management (National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011

A Detailed Site Investigation will be undertaken within the area of the site identified as having HAIL activities occurred, this DSI will set out appropriate mitigation and management protocols to avoid adverse effects on human health.

Part IX: Purpose of the Act

Your application must be supported by an explanation how the project will help achieve the purpose of the Act, that is to “urgently promote employment to support New Zealand’s recovery from the economic and social impacts of COVID-19 and to support the certainty of ongoing investment across New Zealand, while continuing to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources”.

In considering whether the project will help to achieve the purpose of the Act, the Minister may have regard to the specific matters referred to below, and any other matter that the Minister considers relevant.

Project’s economic benefits and costs for people or industries affected by COVID-19:

An Economic Impact Assessment by Market Economics (M.E.) has considered the likely economic effects of the wind farm construction. The project will have significant economic benefits: there will be a direct economic benefit to the construction sector during construction, as well as indirect beneficial effects to the wider economy.

The assessment identifies that while recent levels of construction activity in New Zealand are likely to be maintained for the short term, the outlook beyond is highly uncertain and may slow rapidly, which would have a direct impact on local jobs and therefore households.

The assessment has determined that with construction beginning in the second half of 2025 under the FTCA there will be a cumulative direct value added from the present to completion of the Project of around \$35.7 million. At the peak of construction, 2026, the annual direct value added would be \$20.1 million while the average per year would be an estimated \$11.9 million. This direct value will be to the construction sector and for modelling simplicity has been based solely on benefiting the Auckland region.

When comparing the delivery of the project under the FTCA to that under the standard RMA process, due to the project being able to be delivered three years earlier it will generate an additional cumulative direct value add of \$5.6 million.

The M.E. assessment has also addressed flow on impacts with a value-added analysis as a result of the direct spend. Based on a development under the FTCA it is anticipated to “stimulate a total of \$77.7 million of direct plus indirect value added (GDP) in current terms. Once the induced effects are included, this rises to \$129.3 million in value added (GDP) across the duration of the development, again in current terms.” While the direct economic impact is likely to be

concentrated in the Auckland region the indirect and induced impacts will be felt across the rest of the North Island (\$11.9 million of Value Add) and a smaller portion in the South Island (\$4.7 million of Value Add). The total impact of the project would be \$20.2 million greater if realised under the FTCA compared to the RMA process.

The economic benefit, including the additional value would occur in 2025 to 2027 compared to 2029 – 2031 under the RMA process. In addition, as discussed below due to RMA cost and timeliness uncertainties there is the likelihood the Applicant would not progress this project, meaning none of the economic benefits would be realised. Overall the WWF will assist in sustaining Auckland's large construction sector, including upstream suppliers, who have suffered as a direct and indirect result of a downturn in economic activity and the uncertainty of the future economic climate. There are significant additional economic benefits utilising the FTCA, with an overall total impact of \$129.3 million as the project can be delivered in an earlier timeframe.

Project's effects on the social and cultural wellbeing of current and future generations:

The economic benefits of the employment opportunities outlined above will contribute to the overall wellbeing of the wider area. Currently New Zealand is experiencing increased electricity scarcity and costs, which disproportionately impacts lower socio-economic communities. The project will assist in addressing this issue through an increase in both electricity supply and security.

In regard to cultural wellbeing, the Applicant has been actively engaging with iwi (and will continue to do so throughout the duration of the project) to ensure their values are reflected in the proposal and that available positive cultural effects are explored.

Whether the project would be likely to progress faster by using the processes provided by the Act than would otherwise be the case:

The proposal is for a medium-scale wind farm project in the coastal environment of the Waikato District. Due to the complexity of the project and the scale of potential adverse effects identified, there is a high likelihood that the proposal would be subject to public notification, a complex council hearing process and Environment Court appeals. It is anticipated that the standard RMA process would delay the project by three years due to the public notification, consenting hearing and subsequent court appeals processes. This is consistent with Kaiwera Downs, Mill Creek and Turitea wind farms, which all taking two to three years to consent. With the two year lapse date for fast track consents, the project will be delivered by 2027. Under the RMA, the earliest possible delivery is likely to be 2031. As seen for both Kaiwera Downs and Turitea, construction did not commence for over 10 years. This extent of delay would result in reduced economic benefit and delays in reducing reliance on non-renewable energy sources. The Applicant would be unlikely to progress this project under the RMA standard process due to the level of uncertainty with that process and the associated costs and timeframes.

Whether the project may result in a 'public benefit':

Examples of a public benefit as included in Section 19(d) of the Act are included below as prompts only.

Employment/job creation:

The Economic Impact Assessment by M.E. has determined that there will be direct and sustained construction employment from 2025 as a result of obtaining consent under the FTCA. The majority of direct employment impact will be within the construction sector and is onsite construction related. It is anticipated a *"total of 416 job years' worth of work are directly sustained between 2025 and 2027"*. The majority of the direct employment is in construction industries, across construction services and heavy and civil construction as well as office-based staff. The assessment anticipates that while the proposal may generate a number of 'new jobs' and opportunities for apprentices etc., the majority of the work will be carried out by existing skilled workers in the construction sector. This is typical for large scale construction projects which are more likely to sustain jobs across the sector rather than 'generate' new jobs. While there is predicted to be no difference in overall employment impact between the different consenting scenarios, however under the RMA such employment impact would not be felt until 2029.

When taking into account the flow on effects of the project to the wider economy the employment numbers are equivalent to 1,415 Modified Employment Count working for one year. These indirect employment impacts are likely

to be felt across New Zealand. Utilising the FTCA ensures that the significant employment activity is sustained earlier and therefore delivers more employment benefits to the community sooner compared to the delayed alternative. It is also noted that the site is located near a major workforce in South Auckland, which is likely to benefit from the employment supported by the project.

Housing supply:

The proposal does not increase housing supply, however it enables renewable electricity to be provided for current and future housing reducing their reliance on non-renewable electricity. This electricity source will also be in close proximity to areas of anticipated high housing demand, for example Auckland and Waikato. The project is located near an urban area that can service the employment requirements for the site and therefore does not result in additional pressure on housing supply or infrastructure in the vicinity of the project.

Contributing to well-functioning urban environments:

A consistent and secure supply of energy is necessary for well-functioning urban environments. Urban environments also rely on successful commercial operations that create demand for housing and other consumer products. With the project being located in close proximity to urban environments of Auckland and Waikato this local energy generation supports the local commerce in the area and increases electricity security in the wider area. Therefore, the proposal creates both indirect and direct benefits on the function of nearby urban environments.

Providing infrastructure to improve economic, employment, and environmental outcomes, and increase productivity:

As identified in the report Aotearoa New Zealand's First Emissions Reduction Plan the energy and industry sectors are essential to the economy and lives of New Zealanders. Their performance affects the competitiveness of local businesses and the cost and quality of many goods and services. Energy heats our homes and powers our transport. Industry accounts for around 11 per cent of real gross domestic product and employs 9 per cent of New Zealand workers. New Zealand has an energy shortage and currently imports coal to generate energy. In 2020, emissions from energy made up 40% of our total gross emissions. To meet the 2050 target of a net zero emissions economy, we need a transformed energy system, with much lower reliance on fossil fuels and increased reliance on renewable electricity. The transition to a more renewable energy system will strengthen the NZ's energy independence and ensure our energy supply is affordable and secure in the face of global shocks.

The proposed wind farm (and other renewable energy projects) is crucial to meeting the Government's aspirational target of 100 percent renewable electricity generation by 2030.

Improving environmental outcomes for coastal or freshwater quality, air quality, or indigenous biodiversity:

Renewable electricity generation assists in overall improving environmental outcomes in relation to air quality by reducing reliance on the burning of fossil fuels such as coal. This has a direct benefit in terms of achieving NZ's targets of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Best practice design and management protocols will be in place during construction to ensure adverse effects on freshwater quality do not result. The 500m separation from the coast ensures the quality of the coast is retained and the underlying land use and character is retained.

From desktop modelling the wind farm has the potential to impact on some indigenous avian species and bats, this will be further assessed through on-site monitoring as part of the consent process. Mitigation and offsetting will be provided to improve overall indigenous biodiversity of these species to reduce the extent of adverse effects.

Through investigations to support the application, as well as pre- and post- construction monitoring substantial information about NZ's important biodiversity will be obtained. That information can be made available for the benefit of future infrastructure projects, policy formulation and conservation strategies.

Minimising waste:

The earthworks required to establish the WWF will be undertaken on a cut to fill basis with excess spoil spread on other parts of the farm ensuring that there is no requirement to dispose of soil off-site (except for the soil from the two areas identified as being potentially contaminated). If deemed appropriate as part of the detailed assessment of

potential visual effects on surrounding dwellings this excess spoil could also be utilised to establish earth mounds that would assist in providing screening.

Construction contractors will be encouraged to have waste minimisation strategies in place as part of their construction programmes.

The turbines have at least a 20 year lifespan when decommissioned a large amount of the components will be able to be recycled. Prior to decommissioning a detailed review will be undertaken to ensure that as many materials as possible are recycled.

Contributing to New Zealand's efforts to mitigate climate change and transition more quickly to a low-emissions economy (in terms of reducing New Zealand's net emissions of greenhouse gases):

The electrification of our economy and society is critical to decarbonising New Zealand and addressing the climate change crisis – as fundamental an issue as turning around our degrading environment or solving our housing problem. New Zealand has two principal climate change commitments:

- Our Paris commitment: A 30 per cent reduction of gross greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 levels for the period 2021-2030; and
- Our domestic 'net zero' commitment: Net zero emissions of all greenhouse gases other than biogenic methane by 2050.

As identified in MBIE's Energy in New Zealand 22 report and Aotearoa New Zealand's First Emissions Reduction Plan New Zealand has committed to reducing emissions in the energy and industry sector. These sectors make up just over a quarter of New Zealand's total gross greenhouse gas emissions. Decarbonising the energy and industry sectors is vital to New Zealand achieving its emissions budgets. New Zealand's Emission Reduction Plan (ERP) includes steps to reduce emissions in these sectors, most relevant to this project being:

(2) Ensure the electricity system is ready to meet future needs

(3) Reduce our reliance on fossil fuels

The WWF will contribute towards step (2) above as it enables the development of new renewable electricity generation to support increased electrification, with this wind farm providing sufficient electricity to power 90,000 battery electric vehicles. This reduces the level of emissions and therefore supports the government targets. The generation of renewable energy in close proximity to the high demand area of Auckland improves efficiency of the network, reducing the need for network upgrades to cater for electricity generation further afield and provides greater network r. The proposed project will contribute towards step (3) above as it contributes to the shift away from energy sources that rely on fossil fuels.

New Zealand will be unable to meet its statutory climate change commitments without electrifying our economy with low-emission renewable electricity. Among the actions needed is for New Zealand to accelerate its investment in and approvals for the development of renewable electricity generation capacity to ensure lowest cost electricity and security of supply. In its recent advice to the Government, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) provided several recommendations to the Government to ensure appropriate climate action is taken and realised. The Commission estimated that there will be a 68% increase in the demand for electricity (Whakamana Te Mauri Hiko – Empowering our Energy Future, Transpower, March 2020). The Electricity Authority and Transpower estimate the annual MW installed capacity to meet our net zero goals to be approximately 500MW annually until 2035, and to meet our electrification goals the equivalent of one new Turitea Wind Farm - 222 MW – every year until 2035. As such the Waiuku Wind Farm will be an important part of achieving these goals.

Promoting the protection of historic heritage:

The project envelope has been designed to avoid all known archaeological sites and therefore ensuring their protection. An archaeological investigation authority will assist in identifying unknown archaeological sites within the project envelope to ensure works can be appropriately managed. An archaeological authority for the construction works will be obtained ensuring appropriate protocols to manage and protect unknown archaeological sites occurs.

Strengthening environmental, economic, and social resilience, in terms of managing the risks from natural hazards and the effects of climate change:

As mentioned above, the energy sector performance affects the economic and social wellbeing of New Zealand as energy performance affects the cost and quality of many goods and services, transport, and heating in homes. The Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment 'Energy in New Zealand 22' Report, demonstrated that wind contributes the least amount to total electricity generation in New Zealand compared to the other major sources (i.e., coal, geothermal, hydro, natural and gas). Domestic renewable energy infrastructure is exposed to our complex and temperate climate. Changes to average temperatures, rainfall or wind patterns, and the frequency of extreme weather events, will affect the availability of energy. To ensure New Zealand maintains a resilient energy sector it is important our renewable energy infrastructure is diverse (being made up of hydro, solar and wind). Therefore, enabling wind projects will contribute to a diverse and resilient New Zealand energy sector.

Wind farms provide further resilience through diversification of land uses, as they allow for dual use of land. Livestock can be grazed or crops grown easily without compromising the generation of clean electricity.

A significant benefit of the WWF is the proposed location being relatively close to New Zealand's major load centre, Auckland. Thereby minimizing the load on the national grid and delaying the need for transmission upgrades. The proposed wind farm will reduce supply requirements from more distant resources, thereby materially reducing transmission losses which are effectively wasted supply.

The proposal is for a large-scale renewable energy project, therefore contributing to an energy supply that is secure, reliable and resilient, including in the face of global shocks. The project will generate enough power to meet the electricity requirements of approximately 47,000 homes each year and creates additional employment opportunities in the local area.

Other public benefit:

The positive benefits of this project have been outlined above. In addition, establishing a wind farm in this location provides a diversification of geographical supply of wind energy which the NZ Renewable Energy Generation Diversity Investigation (Concept Consulting) for NZWEA July 2022 has identified is important in reducing the extent of extremes of both high and low generation of renewable electricity.

Whether there is potential for the project to have significant adverse environmental effects:

As identified in the adverse effects assessment above based on the current layout and a desktop analysis there is the potential for significant adverse visual effects on a number of dwellings in proximity to the site location without any mitigation imposed. However the experts consider that the extent of these effects can be reduced following a detailed site assessment and visual simulations, which will determine any mitigation necessary or modification to the site layout. Without mitigation, there could be significant adverse effects on long-tailed bat populations in the area, however, further site- and species- specific assessments will be undertaken and a Bat Management Response Plan developed to avoid, remedy and mitigate such potential effects, as well as identification of possible offsetting measures.

Part X: Climate change and natural hazards

Description of whether and how the project would be affected by climate change and natural hazards:

The site is not identified as being susceptible to natural hazards with the exception of being located within the coastal environment. It is important to bear in mind that 'high wind areas' are mostly located at the coast. All proposed turbines and ancillary infrastructure are sufficiently setback from the coastal edge to avoid any potential risk of coastal erosion.

With climate change, heavy rainfall will likely be a more common occurrence. It is recognised that the proposal will increase the total impermeable surfaces of the subject site through introducing new roads, foundations for turbines and operations buildings. However, the majority of the site will remain in permeable surfaces (i.e., pasture) and any potential flooding risk to the turbine equipment is mitigated through their placement on concrete footings, providing clearance from the natural ground level. Furthermore, through the upgrading and establishment of culverts, the hydrology of the site will be improved.

While it is recognised that wind farms are weather dependent (i.e., rely on wind) and therefore are somewhat susceptible to climate change, wind farm operators can forecast with reasonable accuracy how much electricity they will generate a year, despite changes to wind speed. The long term stability of wind farm generation makes it less susceptible compared to more traditional forms of renewable energy infrastructure used in New Zealand, such as hydroelectric generation, which can be less stable during dry periods.

Part XI: Track record

A summary of all compliance and/or enforcement actions taken against the applicant by a local authority under the Resource Management Act 1991, and the outcome of those actions:

Local authority	Compliance/Enforcement Action and Outcome
No details	

Part XII: Declaration

I acknowledge that a summary of this application will be made publicly available on the Ministry for the Environment website and that the full application will be released if requested.

By typing your name in the field below you are electronically signing this application form and certifying the information given in this application is true and correct.

Jennifer Valentine

28/02/2023

Signature of person or entity making the request

Date

Important notes:

- Please note that this application form, including your name and contact details and all supporting documents, submitted to the Minister for the Environment and/or Minister of Conservation and the Ministry for the Environment, will be publicly released. Please clearly highlight any content on this application form and in supporting documents that is commercially or otherwise sensitive in nature, and to which you specifically object to the release.
- Please ensure all sections, where relevant, of the application form are completed as failure to provide the required details may result in your application being declined.
- Further information may be requested at any time before a decision is made on the application.
- Please note that if the Minister for the Environment and/or Minister of Conservation accepts your application for referral to an expert consenting panel, you will then need to lodge a consent application and/or notice of requirement for a designation (or to alter a designation) in the approved form with the Environmental Protection Authority. The application will need to contain the information set out in Schedule 6, clauses 9-13 of the Act.
- Information presented to the Minister for the Environment and/or Minister of Conservation and shared with other Ministers, local authorities and the Environmental Protection Authority under the Act (including officials at government departments and agencies) is subject to disclosure under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) or the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). Certain information may be withheld in accordance with the grounds for withholding information under the OIA and LGOIMA although the grounds for withholding must always be balanced against considerations of public interest that may justify release. Although the Ministry for the Environment does not give any guarantees as to whether information can be withheld under the

OIA, it may be helpful to discuss OIA issues with the Ministry for the Environment in advance if information provided with an application is commercially sensitive or release would, for instance, disclose a trade secret or other confidential information. Further information on the OIA and LGOIMA is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Checklist

Where relevant to your application, please provide a copy of the following information.

No	Correspondence from the registered legal land owner(s)
Yes	Correspondence from persons or parties you consider are likely to be affected by the project
No	Written agreement from the relevant landowner where the project includes an activity that will occur on land returned under a Treaty settlement.
No	Written agreement from the holder of the relevant customary marine title order where the project includes an activity that will occur in a customary marine title area.
No	Written agreement from the holder of the relevant protected customary marine rights recognition order where the project includes an activity that will occur in a protected customary rights area.