

22 May 2025

Ref: OIAD-5168

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 01 May 2025, in which you asked for the following regarding the Fast-Track Klondyke Storage proposal from Mid Canterbury Water Storage Limited (MCWS):

*DOC provided feedback to the Ministry for the Environment in relation to the proposal when it went through initial Fast-track application. See here:*

*[https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-track-approved/Klondyke-Storage/256.03-DoC-Feedback-256\\_Redacted.pdf](https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-track-approved/Klondyke-Storage/256.03-DoC-Feedback-256_Redacted.pdf)*

*Can you please provide the following further information in relation to this proposal, if it exists.*

- 1. Copies of any internal correspondence between officials at DOC that led to the feedback as provided to MfE*
- 2. Copies of any reports, analyses, or briefings prepared internally (or by consultants) in relation to the Klondyke Storage proposal*
- 3. Copies of any correspondence (including briefings and presentations received, and meeting notes) and records of any meetings (including notes or minutes) in relation to the Klondyke Storage proposal between DOC and*

*\* Ministry for the Environment*

*\* Environment Canterbury*

*\* Ashburton District Council*

*\* Mid Canterbury Water Storage Limited (MCWS), and/or*

*\* Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation Limited (ALI), and/or*

*\* MHV Water Limited (MHV), and/or*

*\* Irrigation NZ, and/or*

*\* Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited, and/or*

*\* Ashburton District Council, and/or*

*\* Environment Canterbury, and/or*

*\* the Minister for SOEs*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA).

On 7 May 2025 you clarified your request to confirm that it is all inclusive and seeks ‘*material that helped inform initial comments provided to MfE and information associated with any subsequent analysis that may have taken place since this advice was provided (between 19 June 2024 and the date of my request being 1 May 2025).*’

## Context

For Fast-track projects that need conservation approvals, applicants must consult with DOC prior to lodging referral applications and substantive applications in the case of listed projects.

We have not yet received a request for pre lodgement consultation from the applicant for this project. For further information on the Fast-track Approvals Act and DOC please refer to: [Fast-track and DOC: Permissions](#)

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *Copies of any internal correspondence between officials at DOC that led to the feedback as provided to MfE*

Internal correspondence amongst DOC Officials that informed feedback provided to the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) as shown at [https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-track-approved/Klondyke-Storage/256.03-DoC-Feedback-256\\_Redacted.pdf](https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-track-approved/Klondyke-Storage/256.03-DoC-Feedback-256_Redacted.pdf) is provided and accompanies our response as Attachment 1 (Items 1 - 4)

2. *Copies of any reports, analyses, or briefings prepared internally (or by consultants) in relation to the Klondyke Storage proposal*

Aside from initial feedback sought and provided to MfE (which has been proactively released), no formal or substantive analysis regarding the Klondyke Storage proposal has been undertaken.

Material which captures general/initial discussions on the proposal are provided and accompany our response as Attachment 2 (item 1 - 2)

3. *Copies of any correspondence (including briefings and presentations received, and meeting notes) and records of any meetings (including notes or minutes) in relation to the Klondyke Storage proposal between DOC and other third parties (as listed above)*

Other than MfE, DOC has been in contact with one other listed third party regarding the Fast-Track Klondyke Storage proposal. Copies of correspondence between DOC and Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation Limited (ALIL) is provided and accompanies our response as Attachment 3.

I have decided to release relevant parts of documents listed in the appended schedule, subject to information being withheld under the following section of the OIA, as applicable:

- personal information, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attached documents may be published on DOC's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Siobhan Quayle  
Director Regulatory Systems Performance  
Department of Conservation  
Te Papa Atawhai

## Document schedule

OIAD-5168 Attachment 1			
Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	19 June 2024 9:01am	FW: another Fast Track one for feedback: FW: [COMMERCIAL]Feedback on FTA256 - Klondyke Storage	Released in part
2	19 June 2024 10:05 am	A FW: another Fast Track one for feedback: FW: [COMMERCIAL]Feedback on FTA256 - Klondyke Stora	Released in part
3	19 June 2024 4:08pm	RE: due back Thursday morning so I can then send by midday Thursday [COMMERCIAL]Feedback on FTA256 - Klondyke Storage	Released in full
4	19 June 2024 4:18pm	RE: Feedback on FTA256 - Klondyke Storage	Released in full

OIAD-5168 Attachment 2			
Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	23 January 2025	Klondyke Water Storage Record of Fast-Track Context Meeting	Released in full
2	24 January 2025	RE: Klondyke Storage Project - context meeting	Released in part

OIAD-5168 Attachment 3			
Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	17 March 2025	RE: Klondyke Storage - discussion on proposal	Released in part