



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Shane Jones	Portfolio	Minister for Regional Development
Title of Cabinet paper	Regional Infrastructure Fund: progressing Fast-Track Consenting for the Northland Shipyard and Dry Dock Project	Date to be published	21 September 2026

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
August 2026	Regional Infrastructure Fund: progressing Fast-Track Consenting for the Northland Shipyard and Dry Dock Project	Office of the Minister for Regional Development
5 August 2026	Regional Infrastructure Fund: progressing Fast-Track Consenting for the Northland Shipyard and Dry Dock Project ECO-26-MIN-0144 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO (please select)

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Some information has been withheld for the reasons of Commercial Information.



Cabinet Economic Policy Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Regional Infrastructure Fund: Progressing Fast-track Consenting for the Northland Shipyard and Dry Dock Project

Portfolio **Regional Development**

On 5 August 2026, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (ECO):

- 1 **noted** that in May 2024, Cabinet agreed that it would make Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) investment decisions on all grant, loan, and equity investments over \$35.000 million, or any projects deemed high-risk by officials and Crown Regional Holdings Limited [CAB-24-MIN-0168.02];
- 2 **noted** that in May 2025, ECO agreed to ringfence up to \$100.000 million from the RIF to support the development of a dry dock at Northport (the project) [ECO-25-MIN-00061];
- 3 **noted** the progress made on the project since Kānoa assumed responsibility, including market engagement, procurement, technical and commercial work, and refinement of the delivery approach;
- 4 **noted** that the project delivery model has been adjusted to now progress under a Crown-led development pathway, with potential for third-party investment;
- 5 **noted** that obtaining planning and environmental approvals is a critical prerequisite to any future investment decision on the project;
- 6 **approved** the drawdown of up to \$^{Commercial in} million from the existing RIF ringfenced allocation for the Northport dry dock to support the completion, lodgement and progression of an application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA);
- 7 **noted** that progressing the FTAA application does not commit the Crown to construction of the project or any future investment decision;
- 8 **noted** that Kānoa will seek joint approval from the Minister of Finance and Minister for Regional Development to transfer the funding from the existing RIF multi-category capital appropriation to departmental operating expenditure;
- 9 **noted** that the Minister for Regional Development will report back to Cabinet following completion of the FTAA process with advice on the outcome of the consenting pathway, implications for the project, and recommended next steps.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present: (see over)

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Nicola Willis (Chair)
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Chris Penk
Hon Penny Simmonds
Hon Nicola Grigg
Hon Andrew Hoggard
Hon Mark Patterson
Hon James Meager
Hon Scott Simpson
Hon Cameron Brewer
Hon Mike Butterick
Simon Court MP

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for ECO