



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Shane Jones	Portfolio	Regional Development
Title of Cabinet paper	Using the Regional Infrastructure Fund to Progress the Northport Dry Dock	Date to be published	12 October 2026

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
May 2025	Using the Regional Infrastructure Fund to Progress the Northport Dry Dock	Office of the Minister for Regional Development
12 May 2025	Using the Regional Infrastructure Fund to Progress the Northport Dry Dock ECO-25-MIN-0061 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO (please select)

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reasons of confidential advice to government, negotiations, commercial information, free and frank opinions, national security or defence and national economy.



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.

Using the Regional Infrastructure Fund to Progress the Northport Dry Dock

Portfolio **Regional Development**

On 7 May 2025, the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee:

- 1 **noted** that in May 2024, Cabinet agreed that it would make Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) decisions on all grant, loan, and equity investments over \$35 million, or any projects deemed high risk by officials and Crown Regional Holdings Limited [CAB-24-MIN-0168.02];
- 2 **noted** that progressing a detailed business case for a dry dock at Marsden Point (Northport) is a commitment in the National-New Zealand First Coalition Agreement;
- 3 **noted** that the proposed co-investment in a dry dock at Northport could unlock an additional \$290 million of GDP per annum, create 1,135 new jobs, support the growth of coastal shipping, improve the resilience of New Zealand's Naval fleet, reduce maritime emissions, and improve biosecurity outcomes;
- 4 **noted** that the Northport dry dock project is aligned with the purpose of the RIF;
- 5 **noted** that:
 - 5.1 Commercial Information [REDACTED]
 - 5.2 the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment is working to develop a consenting pathway and will update the Regional Development Ministerial Group as appropriate;
- 6 **agreed** to ringfence up to \$100 million of RIF capital expenditure for the proposed Northport dry dock project;
- 7 **noted** that, by making a decision now on ringfencing RIF funding, the Government can make further decisions at pace and enter into negotiations once a preferred infrastructure delivery partner is selected, expected by August 2025;

- 8 **noted** that the Minister for Regional Development intends to report back to Cabinet following the appointment of a delivery partner to:
- 8.1 provide an updated detailed business case for the Northport dry dock, including a longer dock option;
 - 8.2 outline the project's alignment with other related infrastructure projects in the region;
 - 8.3 seek Cabinet agreement to the final investment arrangements.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon David Seymour
Hon Nicola Willis (Chair)
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Tama Potaka
Hon Andrew Hoggard
Hon Nicola Grigg
Hon Scott Simpson
Hon Mark Patterson
Hon James Meager
Simon Court MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of Hon Chris Bishop
Office of Hon James Meager
Officials Committee for ECO