

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)
LIMITED

WAIHI NORTH PROJECT

Freshwater Ecology

Evidence of Ian Kenneth Grant
Boothroyd Regarding Technical
Assessment of Freshwater Ecology
Effects and Proposed Conditions

26 February 2025

INTRODUCTION

My name is Ian Kenneth Grant Boothroyd.

My role in relation to the Waihi North Project (“**WNP**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to Freshwater Ecology. I prepared and oversaw the reports which are provided within *Part H – Supporting Technical Assessments* of the application.

This evidence has been prepared to accompany the application by Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OGNZL**”) for approvals required for the WNP under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”). It has been prepared on the understanding that the process for determining applications under the FTAA does not require a hearing to be held, and accordingly the purpose of this evidence is to confirm that, relative to my area of expertise the reports listed below provide an appropriate description of the relevant environment, the proposed activities comprising the effects of the WNP on that environment, and the way those effects are proposed to be managed.

My findings are set out in full in the reports listed below and included within *Part H – Supporting Technical Assessments* of the application:

- > Waihi North project: Freshwater Ecological Assessment. Dated 26 February 2025.
- > Wharekirauponga Stream Natural State: Effects of potential flow changes on natural state and aquatic ecology. Dated 17 February 2025.
- > Waihi North Project: Fauna Salvage and Relocation Plan. Dated 17 February 2025.
- > Waihi North Project: Stream Diversion and Development Plan. Dated 26 February 2025.

While this application is not being considered by the Environment Court, I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses contained in the Environment Court of New Zealand Practice Note 2023 and that I have complied with it when preparing this evidence. Other than when I state I am relying on the advice of another person, this evidence is within my area of expertise. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

I am a Partner at Boffa Miskell Limited, Auckland. I hold the qualifications of BSc (Hons) Zoology (University of Manchester, UK), MSc Applied Hydrobiology (University of Wales, UK), and DPhil Freshwater Ecology (University of Waikato, NZ).

I am elected Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (“**FEIANZ**”) and elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology (“**FRSB**”).

I am a Past-President of the New Zealand Chapter of the Environmental Institute of Australia and New Zealand, former President of the NZ Freshwater Sciences Society and a former elected Councillor of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Previously I have worked for the University of Auckland, Golder Associates (NZ) Limited, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research as well as the Hawke's Bay and the Waikato Regional Councils.

I am currently employed as Senior Principal Ecologist at Boffa Miskell Ltd. and have held that position since 2014.

In providing this evidence in relation to Freshwater Ecology, I have considered the following matters as relevant to that topic:

- (a) The project description provided by OGNZL as set out in Section 2 of the Substantive Application prepared by Mitchell Daysh Limited;
- (b) The description of the existing environment, the effects of the WNP on that environment and their significance, and the proposals to manage those effects all as set out in the assessment of environmental effects accompanying the application;
- (c) The technical assessments of GHD, WWLA, Babbage, Riley Consultants, Greenaway and Associates, and Beca.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

I confirm that in my opinion the reports listed above contain an accurate and appropriate description of the environment, the actual and potential effects of the WNP, and the recommended actions to manage those effects within my area of expertise.

I confirm that in my opinion the contents of the reports listed above may be relied on in making a decision on the approvals sought for the WNP and confirm that provided effects within my area of expertise are managed as proposed in the application those effects will not be unacceptable and will be managed to a standard that I consider meets good practice.

I confirm that I have reviewed the conditions that OGNZL proposes for the various approvals being sought as they relate to my area of expertise. I confirm that in my opinion those proposed conditions are appropriate.

Ian Boothroyd

Dated this 26 day of February 2025.