

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)  
LIMITED

## **WAIHI NORTH PROJECT**

### **Assessment of Noise Effects Report**

Evidence of **Stephen Jack Peakall**  
Regarding Technical Assessment of  
Noise Effects and Proposed Conditions

## INTRODUCTION

My name is Stephen Jack Peakall.

My role in relation to the Waihi North Project (“**WNP**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to noise. I wrote the Marshall Day Acoustics Technical Assessment of Noise Effects report which is 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 Technical Assessment of Noise Effects provides 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 Technical Assessment of Noise Effects included within *Part H – Supporting Technical Assessments* of the application.

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 currently employed as an Acoustical Consultant with Marshall Day Acoustics and have held that position since May 2005.

I hold a degree in Environmental Engineering obtained from the University of West England (United Kingdom) and a postgraduate diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control from the United Kingdom's Institute of Acoustics, of which I am also a member. I am also a full professional member of the Acoustical Society of New Zealand.

I have over 20 years' experience in environmental noise issues, specialising in environmental noise assessment and control. Over the last 20 years I have been involved in the

investigation, assessment and reporting on numerous environmental noise matters, covering a wide variety of noise generating activities.

My professional experience includes noise and vibration advice on projects for various clients, including most New Zealand airports, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency ("Waka Kotahi"), Transpower NZ, KiwiRail and several quarries and mines throughout the country. I am currently involved in environmental noise and vibration assessment work that includes computer noise modelling, noise measurement surveys, strategic noise mapping and noise effects assessments.

In providing this evidence in relation to noise, I have considered the following matters as relevant:

- (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 ecological assessment prepared by Boffa Miskell and the recreational assessment prepared by Greenaway; and
- (d) Various relevant statutory and non-statutory documents (including New Zealand Standards) and international guidance documents as they relate to noise (a substantive list of which is contained in my Technical Assessment of Noise Effects report).

## **CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS**

I confirm that in my opinion the Technical Assessment of Noise Effects contains 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 Technical Assessment of Noise Effects 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Jack Peakall', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

**Stephen Jack Peakall**

Dated this 7th day of February 2025