

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)
LIMITED

WAIHI NORTH PROJECT

Wharekirauponga underground mine
and access tunnels

Evidence of Timothy John McMorran
Regarding Geotechnical Assessment of
Tunnels and Wharekirauponga
Underground Mine

INTRODUCTION

My name is Timothy John McMorran.

My role in relation to the Waihi North Project (“**WNP**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to geotechnical conditions expected for the tunnels and Wharekirauponga underground mine. I wrote the geotechnical assessment of tunnels and underground mine 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 geotechnical assessment of tunnels and Wharekirauponga underground mine report 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 geotechnical assessment of tunnels and Wharekirauponga underground mine report 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 hold BSc and MSc (hons) degrees in Engineering Geology and am a chartered member of Engineering New Zealand (PEngGeol).

I am currently employed as Technical Director Engineering Geology at WSP and have held that position since 2022.

My previous work experience includes over thirty years working as a professional engineering geologist on a wide variety of civil and mining projects throughout the Asia Pacific region, mainly based in New Zealand.

In providing this evidence in relation to geotechnical assessment of tunnels and Wharekirauponga underground mine, 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 hydrogeology, groundwater impacts, geochemistry and mine design completed by other OGNZL experts that are relevant to my area of assessment; and
- (d) Geotechnical information made available by OGNZL and publicly available geological information.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

I confirm that in my opinion the geotechnical assessment of tunnels and underground mine report 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 geotechnical assessment of tunnels and underground mine report 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 dark ink, reading "Timothy McMorran", on a light-colored rectangular background.

Timothy John McMorran

Dated this 12th day of February 2025