

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)  
LIMITED

## **WAIHI NORTH PROJECT**

### **Contaminated Land**

Evidence of Lauren Windross  
Regarding Technical Assessment of  
Contaminated Land Effects and  
Proposed Conditions

24 February 2025

## INTRODUCTION

My name is Lauren Windross

My role in relation to the Waihi North Project (“**WNP**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to Contaminated Land. I wrote the Preliminary Site Investigation (Ground Contamination) (the “**PSI**”) and Site Management Plan (Ground Contamination) (the “**SMP**”) 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 PSI and SMP 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 PSI and SMP 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 have a Bachelor of Science with Honours from University of Auckland (2008). I also have a Certificate in Business from Massey University and a professional membership to the Australasian Land and Groundwater Association (“**ALGA**”). I have 13 years’ experience in the field of Contaminated Land. I specialise in investigations, management, and remediation of contaminated sites, identifying project constraints and opportunities related to contaminated soil management, and supporting earthworks contractors to appropriately manage contaminated soils.

I am currently employed as a Senior Environmental Consultant at Williamson Water and Land Advisory and have held that position since 2018.

My previous work experience includes seven (7) years as a Contaminated Land Specialist at Tonkin + Taylor, and two (2) years as a Geologist at SKM (now Jacobs). I have worked on contaminated land investigations across a wide range of residential and commercial redevelopment projects throughout New Zealand. I also prepare Environmental Management Plans to support good environmental practice on commercial and industrial sites.

In providing this evidence in relation to Contaminated Land, 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.

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

I confirm that in my opinion the PSI and SMP 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 PSI and SMP 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.

**Lauren Windross**

Dated this 24 day of February 2025