

UNDER the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (**Act**)

IN THE MATTER an application for approvals for the Waihi North
Project (**WNP**) – a listed project described in
Schedule 2 of the Act

BY **OCEANA GOLD (NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED**
Applicant

**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE BY ROBERT VAN DE MUNCKHOF ON
BEHALF OF OCEANA GOLD (NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED**

Hazardous substances storage and use

Dated 1 September 2025

Counsel acting:
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Introduction

1. My full name is Robert Alan Van de Munckhof. My qualifications and experience, and my role in the Waihi North Project (**WNP**), are set out in my statement of evidence dated 20 February 2025 included in Part G of the substantive application document for the WNP.
2. I have been asked by OceanaGold (New Zealand) Limited to provide a response to the specific matters contained in written comments on the WNP application from persons invited by the Panel to comment under section 53 of the Act as follows:
 - a. Recommended revisions to the consent conditions proposed by Mr Schaffoener (Pages 79-80 of the Hauraki District Council Feedback - Waihi North Fast-track Application); and
 - b. Cyanide management as commented on by Dr Emerman (Page 9 and Pages 29-30 of the Coromandel Watchdog of Hauraki Comment: Oceana Gold Waihi North Fast-track Approvals Application).
3. I have prepared this statement within the limited time available to me. Consequently, it is necessarily at a high level. I am able to provide a more fulsome response to the issues covered in this statement if the Panel requires further assistance from me.

Code of conduct

4. I confirm that I have read the code of conduct for expert witnesses contained in section 9 of the Environment Court Practice Note 2023 and have complied with it in preparing this evidence. I confirm that the issues addressed in this evidence are within my area of expertise, and I have not omitted material facts known to me that might alter or detract from my evidence.

Memorandum from Norbert Schaffoener

5. Mr Shaffoener has prepared a memorandum following his review of the Fast-track application relevant to the storage and use of hazardous substances including my evidence dated 20 February 2025. In his review he concludes that the proposed management of hazardous substances is appropriate but has recommended a number of changes to the proposed conditions.
6. Paragraphs 11-15 of Mr Schaffoener's memorandum recommend changes to the proposed conditions to change condition 58A to an advice note and to include Area 6 in the conditions requiring management plans in Conditions 62 of the HDC consent and Condition C5 m. of the combined consent.
7. As noted in the memorandum, the Tonkin + Taylor reports did not recommend any specific conditions in relation to hazardous substances, but a number of conditions were proposed by the Applicant. I support the recommended changes to conditions 58 and 62.
8. Para 14 notes that certification of management plans is "crucial and will provide an opportunity for relevant requirements to be addressed". Condition 62 provides for certification of the management plan which addresses his comments.

Cyanide management

9. Dr Emerman notes at paragraph 5 and 6 of his evidence "The Applicant has provided no cyanide management plan despite proposing to store 112,000 litres of liquid cyanide and 77.180 metric tons of solid cyanide on-site."
10. We note that, solid sodium cyanide and liquid cyanide is currently stored and used at the processing plant in Waihi.

11. While not appended to the application, OceanGold have an existing Waihi Cyanide Management Plan (WAI-451-PLN-002) which was referred to and described in Section 4.11.1 (Sodium Cyanide delivery, storage and use) of the Hazardous Substances Technical Assessment – Waihi Processing Plant, Water Treatment Plant and Waste (T+T, February 2025).
12. The controls noted in the Waihi Cyanide Management Plan include:
 - a. bunding of all storage areas;
 - b. segregation of incompatible materials;
 - c. identification and marking of associated pipework;
 - d. fixed gas monitoring sensors and alarm thresholds;
 - e. automation of process controls and process safety interlocks; and
 - f. protection measures for water management and worker safety on the site.
13. The plan identifies potential overflow locations to provide secondary containment, and the processing site has tertiary containment ponds to contain any unplanned release on site. There are substances stored on site that can be used to dose and detoxify the containment areas following a spill as part of the emergency response.
14. Additionally, the Waihi Emergency Management Plan WAI-250-PCP-001 (October 2023) sets out the site-specific cyanide emergency procedures for a range of emergency release, fire or staff exposure scenarios.
15. I consider that the plan addresses the matters raised by Dr Emerman.

Dated: 1 September 2025

Robert Alan Van de Munckhof