

File ref: FTAA-2504-1046

27 May 2025

Penny Nelson
Director General of Conservation
Department of Conservation
C/- Fast-track team
By Email: fast-track@doc.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

Request for reports and advice under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited has lodged a substantive application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) on 10 April 2025. The Waihi North application relates to the expansion of the existing gold and silver mining operations in Waihi, establishing new open pit and underground mines, and extending the life of the mine from expiry in 2030 to 2040.

The EPA has decided that the application is complete and in scope under section 46 of the Act and provided the application to the panel convener. The substantive application seeks an approval for:

- a concession under section 42(4)(e) of the Act on land that is vested in the Crown
- a wildlife approval under section 42(4)(h) of the Act
- a complex freshwater fisheries activity approval under section 42(4)(j) of the Act
- an access arrangement under section 42(4)(l) or (m) of the Act relating to land administered by the Department of Conservation.

Under section 51 of the Act, the panel convener has now directed the EPA to obtain from the Director-General of Conservation the following reports:

- in respect of the concession applied for under **section 42(4)(e)** of the Act, a report prepared by the Director-General of Conservation in accordance with **clause 4 of Schedule 6** of the Act
- in respect of the wildlife approval under **section 42(4)(h)** of the Act, a report prepared the Director-General of Conservation in accordance with **clause 3 of Schedule 7** of the Act

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- in respect of the complex freshwater fisheries activity approval under **section 42(4)(j)** of the Act, a report prepared the Director-General of Conservation in accordance with **clause 4 of Schedule 9** of the Act
- in respect of an access arrangement under **section 42(4)(l) or (m)** of the Act related to land administered by the Department of Conservation, a report prepared by the Chief Executive of the Department of Conservation in accordance with **clause 17 of Schedule 11** of the Act.

The panel convener has also directed the EPA to obtain advice from the Department of Conservation in respect of the matters that are outlined in the attached Minutes.

The Department of Conservation must provide the reports and advice requested to the EPA **within 10 working days after the panel invites comments under section 53 of the Act.**

If you have any questions, please contact Alex Mickleson, Application Lead by email at info@fasttrack.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Alex Mickleson

Application Lead, Fast-track Applications