
MINUTE 33 OF THE EXPERT PANEL
Memorandum regarding concurrent hearings
Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project
[FTAA-2507-1089]
[8 June 2026]

[1] This Minute relates to the imminent concurrent expert hearings and formally confirms advice already given through the EPA in response to two memoranda of counsel.

Memorandum of Sustainable Tarras (ST) dated 4 June 2026

[2] The Panel thanks ST for its advice in respect of expert attendance at each of the seven hearings identified.

[3] In respect of the proposed requests/directions identified at paragraph [3 (a) and (b)], the Panel confirms:

- (a) ChanceryGreen in combination with the EPA will ensure the Ecology (Effects Management) JWS will (if completed) be circulated to all parties by 6.00pm 11 June 2026
- (b) Parties wishing to cross examine on ecology are to provide their topics to the Panel by 9.00am on 12 June in lieu of the 2 working days previously specified. The Panel requests earlier notification if practically possible.

[4] In respect of the proposed requests/directions at paragraph [4 (a) and (b)], the Panel confirms:

- (a) ChanceryGreen in combination with the EPA will ensure the follow up Landscape JWS will (if completed) be circulated by 6.00 pm on the evening of the resumed expert conference.
- (b) Parties are to file any supplementary cross examination topics emerging from the resumed conference by 9.00am on 9 June or earlier if practically possible. Topics emerging from the original Landscape conference are to be filed two working days prior to the hearing as originally directed.

[5] In respect of paragraph 5, the Panel will do its best to schedule the hearing in respect of questions 13 and 15 in the Economics JWS for a time as close to 11.30 am as possible, so as to accommodate Prof Higham.

[6] In respect of paragraph [7], the Panel does not require Mr. Simpson and Prof. Boyle to attend the Landscape concurrent hearing but the Lighting/Dark Sky JWS is to be made available to all experts who are attending. The JWS may be read on the Fast-track website at <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/bendigoophir-gold-project/reports-and-advice>

Memorandum of D-G of Conservation dated 4 June 2026

[7] Counsel for the D-G requests that a separate hearing time be allocated for its witness Dr. Mandy Tocher who will be overseas and unable to attend the Ecology concurrent hearing on 12 June 2026. The Panel grants the request and will hear from Dr Tocher on 19 June 2026 at 2.00pm.



Hon Matthew Muir KC

Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Expert Panel Chair