



## Memorandum

**To:** Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Expert Panel  
**From:** Santana Minerals  
**Date:** 10 August 2026  
**Subject:** Response to Questions 21 and 22 of RFI 11

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## Introduction

Questions 21 and 22 of Request for Information 11 seek further information regarding the social effects of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project (BOGP), including the Social Impact Assessment (SIA), the assessment and management of social impacts, and the Project's alignment with the Tarras Community Plan 2023.

To assist the Panel in its consideration of these matters, Matakanui Gold Limited (MGL) provides the following three documents, which should be read together:

### **1. Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Social Impact Assessment (GHD, October 2025)**

This report is the original Social Impact Assessment prepared by GHD for the BOGP and is provided in response to Question 21(a). The report identifies potential social effects associated with the Project and provides recommendations to support the management of those effects.

While the GHD SIA was not included within the substantive application documentation, the report was nevertheless used to inform Project development, stakeholder engagement and the evolution of social impact management measures.

Following completion of the GHD SIA, MGL sought additional advice regarding social impact assessment practice for major mining and extractive industry projects. That advice identified the importance of ongoing community engagement, monitoring and adaptive management throughout project development and operation. As a result, MGL considered it appropriate to supplement the original assessment with updated information reflecting the engagement activities, project refinements and mitigation measures developed since completion of the original report.

MGL's current approach to social impact management, community engagement and adaptive management is further described in the Social Impact Assessment Addendum and the Community and Stakeholder Engagement Update Report. MGL expects these



programmes to continue to evolve over the life of the Project, with input from the Community Liaison Group and other stakeholders.

## **2. Social Impact Assessment Addendum (July 2026)**

The Addendum has been prepared to supplement, but not replace, the original GHD SIA. The Addendum responds directly to Questions 21 and 22 and provides updated analysis based on information available following completion of the original assessment.

The Addendum includes:

- updates to the social environment and Project context;
- additional community and stakeholder engagement findings;
- progress on the implementation of social impact management measures;
- an updated evaluation of potential social impacts;
- consideration of vulnerable and sensitive populations; and
- an assessment of the Project against the Tarras Community Plan 2023.

## **3. Community and Stakeholder Engagement Update Report (October 2025 to July 2026)**

This report documents engagement undertaken following lodgement of the substantive application and demonstrates how community and stakeholder feedback has informed Project development, mitigation measures, communication activities and ongoing management commitments.

The report records ongoing engagement across Central Otago, including community drop-in sessions, presentations, site visits, Community Liaison Group meetings, workforce surveys, business engagement and continued engagement with mana whenua and other stakeholders.

### **Conclusion**

These documents should be read together. Collectively they provide:

- the original Social Impact Assessment prepared for the Project;
- an updated assessment of potential social impacts and proposed management measures;
- information on how social impact management recommendations have been implemented and refined;
- an evaluation of the Project against the Tarras Community Plan 2023; and

- additional information on community and stakeholder engagement undertaken since lodgement of the substantive application.

The Community and Stakeholder Engagement Update Report should be read alongside Part F.16 (Pre-Application Engagement Report), which documents engagement undertaken prior to October 2025.

Read together, these documents provide MGL's response to Questions 21 and 22 of RFI 11.