# OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED

# **WAIHI NORTH PROJECT**

Hazardous Substances

Evidence of Rob Van de Munckhof Regarding Technical Assessment of storage and use of hazardous substances Effects and Proposed Conditions

### INTRODUCTION

My name is Rob Van de Munckhof.

My role in relation to the Waihi North Project ("WNP") has been to provide expert advice in relation to risks to people, property and the environment posed by hazardous substances storage and use. I was the technical director and oversaw the:

- (a) Technical Assessment of Hazardous Substances Exploratory Works within the Coromandel Forest Park Waihi North Project, February 2025;
- (b) Technical Assessment of Hazardous Substances Waihi Processing Plant, Water Treatment Plant and Waste Disposal Area – Waihi North Project, February 2025; and
- (c) Technical Assessment of Hazardous Substances Willows Road site and the Wharekirauponga Underground Mine Waihi North Project, February 2025.

I refer to these reports as the 'hazardous substances assessments'. These were 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 hazardous substances assessments 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 hazardous substances assessments 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 hold a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Chemical and Materials Engineering from the University of Auckland.

I am currently employed as a Principal and Senior Environmental Engineer at Tonkin & Taylor Ltd (T+T) and have held that position since 2005.

I have undertaken hazardous substances risk assessments for a wide range of industries as well as providing technical support to Councils associated with District Plan rules for management of hazardous substances risks, including:

- (a) Undertaking a review of the requirements under the various hazardous substances regulations to identify potential gaps for management under the Dunedin City Plan. The work included a review of the requirements of hazardous substances regulations, a review of different plan approaches and recommendations for the Dunedin City Plan;
- (b) Undertaking a review of quantitative risk assessments associated with bulk fuel terminals and bulk chemical facilities to understand the extent of the residual risks, and implications in terms of current and future land use including for Auckland Council associated with the Americas Cup Village, Dunedin City Council and Napier City Council;
- (c) Preparation of hazardous substances assessments for the Sleepyhead Factory in Ohinewai including preparation of a hazardous substance risk assessment and evaluation of the requirements under the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations;
- (d) Preparation of hazardous substance assessments for Oceana Gold New Zealand Limited for a number of exploratory drilling sites in Hauraki District and Thames-Coromandel Districts; and
- (e) Hazardous substance assessments throughout New Zealand for land use consent under various district plans including facilities in Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Wellington, Canterbury and Southland.

In providing this evidence in relation to hazardous substances, 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;
- (c) The technical assessments of Global Seismic Solutions Ltdin relation to the blast overpressure levels associated with unplanned detonation at a Class 1 explosives store;
- (d) The structural and operational management requirements that apply under the Health and Safety at Work (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 2017; and
- (e) OGNZL's principal hazard management plans, emergency management procedures and standard operating procedures.

# CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

I confirm that in my opinion the hazardous substances assessments each 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 hazardous substances assessments 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.

#### Rob Van de Munckhof

Dated this 20 day of February 2025