

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)
LIMITED

MACRAES PHASE FOUR (MP4)

Blasting Vibration and Airblast Effects Assessment

Evidence of Nick Elith Regarding
Technical Assessment of Blasting
Vibration and Airblast Effects

INTRODUCTION

1. My name is Nick Elith
2. My role in relation to Macraes Phase 4 (“**MP4**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to the Blasting Vibration and Airblast Effects Assessment. I wrote the Blasting Vibration and Airblast Effects Assessment (“**the Report**”) which is provided within *Part B – Technical Reports* of the application.
3. This evidence has been prepared to accompany the Report and the application by Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OGNZL**”) for approvals required for MP4 under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”).
4. Section 4.1(h) of the FTAA Panel Conveners’ Practice and Procedure note (July 2025) says all technical experts authoring reports should include a statement regarding compliance with the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses. This evidence has been prepared to fulfil this requirement, and if a hearing is not held, this evidence confirms that, relative to my area of expertise the Report provides an appropriate description of the relevant environment, the proposed activities comprising the effects of the MP4 on that environment, and the way those effects are proposed to be managed.
5. My findings are set out in full in the Blasting Vibration and Airblast Effects Assessment included within *Part B – Technical Reports* of the application.
6. 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 the Report. Other than when I state I am relying on the advice of another person, the Report 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

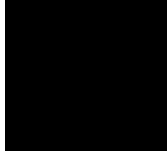
7. I am the Principle Blasting Consultant at technick Consulting Pty. Ltd. I graduated from the University of Sydney in 1970 with a degree in mining engineering. My principal roles for over 50 years have been Consulting to the mining, quarrying and construction industries in areas explosives usage, blast design, risk management and environmental implications of blasting. I have been involved in supporting blasting operations at OGNZL operations for over 20 years.
8. I currently hold the position of Principle Blasting Consultant of techNick Consulting Pty. Ltd and have held that position since 1982.

9. My previous work experience includes Blasting principles and applications, Safety and Cost Efficiency in blasting; Opencut and Underground, Blast Design and implementation - Opencut and Underground, Conducting On-site drilling & blasting Operational Audits, Technical writing: Blasting manuals, Operational Procedures, Author of Opencut and Underground blasting manuals, Environmentally sensitive blast design, analysis and supervision, Investigation of explosives accidents and Incidents, and I have been an expert witness for other. blasting impact related matters.
10. In providing this evidence, I have considered the following matters as relevant to that topic:
 - (a) The project description provided by OGNZL as set out in Section 6 of the Substantive Application prepared by Mitchell Daysh Limited;
 - (b) The description of the existing environment as set out in Section 4 of the Substantive Application, the effects of MP4 on that environment and their significance, and the proposals to manage those effects as all set out in the assessment of effects in Section 9 of the Substantive Application;
 - (c) The technical assessments of Archaeological Assessment for Frasers West Pit Archaeological Sites Prepared by Origin Consultants Ltd July 2019; and Development House/Historic Summary by Origin Consultants/August 2019.
 - (d) The Archaeology Assessment for MP4 prepared by Origin Consultants Ltd August 2026.
 - (e) Australian Standard AS 2187.2-2006 EXPLOSIVES-STORAGE & USE - USE OF EXPLOSIVES ISBN: 0-7337-7225-0 which has formed the basis for most of the environmental standards and limits outlined in the consent documentation.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

11. I confirm that in my opinion the Report contains an accurate and appropriate description of the environment, the actual and potential effects of MP4, and the recommended actions to manage those effects within my area of expertise.
12. I confirm that in my opinion the contents of the Report may be relied on in making a decision on the approvals sought for MP4, 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.

13. 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.



Nick Elith

Dated this 2nd day of September 2026