

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)
LIMITED

WAIHI NORTH PROJECT

Air Quality

Evidence of Mathew Gregory Noonan
Regarding Technical Assessment of Air
Quality Effects and Proposed
Conditions

INTRODUCTION

My name is Mathew Gregory Noonan.

My role in relation to the Waihi North Project (“**WNP**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to the air quality effects. I am the principal author of the reports titled “Waihi North Project – Waihi Facilities - Air Discharge Assessment for Fast-Track Approval Application” and “Waihi North Project – Wharekirauponga Underground Mine - Air Discharge Assessment – for Fast – track Approval Application” which are 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 “Waihi North Project – Waihi Facilities - Air Discharge Assessment for Fast-Track Approval Application” and “Waihi North Project – Wharekirauponga Underground Mine - Air Discharge Assessment – for Fast – track Approval Application” reports provides 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 “Waihi North Project – Waihi Facilities - Air Discharge Assessment for Fast-Track Approval Application” and “Waihi North Project – Wharekirauponga Underground Mine - Air Discharge Assessment – for Fast – track Approval Application” reports 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 currently hold the role of Senior Associate Environmental Scientist at Beca Ltd. I have been employed by Beca since 2009.

I have over 25 years of experience as an air quality consultant, primarily assessing the health, environmental and amenity effects of discharges to air from industrial and infrastructure sources.

I hold bachelor's degrees in Mathematics and Mechanical Engineering, and a Master of Science in Environmental Science from the University of Auckland. I also hold a post Graduate Certificate in Biostatistics from the University of Sydney. I am a member of the Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand (CASANZ).

Some of my relevant experience in assessing the effects from activities that have the potential to generate dust discharges include the following.

- a) Willowbank Quarry
- b) Macraes Gold Mine – Life of Mine Extension MP4 project
- c) Taiko Quarry and managed fill
- d) Clevedon Quarry
- e) Cromwell Quarry

I have undertaken reviews on behalf of Waikato Regional Council in relation to proposed discharges the Puke Coal Ltd coal mine and clean fill site, on behalf of Environment Southland in relation to proposed discharges from the AB Lime landfill, and on behalf of Auckland Council in relation to discharges from Millbrook Quarry.

In providing this evidence in relation to air quality effects, 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 assessment prepared by Tonkin and Taylor entitled “Assessment of mine vent air quality impacts to inform assessment of ecological effect on Archey’s frog” (June 2022), which is included as Appendix A in the “Waihi North Project – Wharekirauponga Underground Mine - Air Discharge Assessment – for Fast – track Approval Application report ;

- (d) The ambient air quality, dust deposition and meteorological monitoring provided by OGNZL;
- (e) The complaint record provided by OGNZL; and
- (f) The OGNZL derived mercury emission rates for the processing plant when processing the Gladstone Open Pit and Wharekirauponga Underground Mine ore.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

I confirm that in my opinion the “Waihi North Project – Waihi Facilities - Air Discharge Assessment for Fast-Track Approval Application” and “Waihi North Project – Wharekirauponga Underground Mine - Air Discharge Assessment – for Fast – track Approval Application” reports 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 “Waihi North Project – Waihi Facilities - Air Discharge Assessment for Fast-Track Approval Application” and “Waihi North Project – Wharekirauponga Underground Mine - Air Discharge Assessment – for Fast – track Approval Application” reports 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.

Mathew Gregory Noonan

Dated this 28 day of February 2025