

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)
LIMITED

MACRAES PHASE FOUR (MP4)

MANAGEMENT PLANS

Evidence of **Bernie O’Leary** Regarding
Preparation of Management Plans

INTRODUCTION

1. My name is Bernie O’Leary.
2. My role in relation to Macraes Phase 4 (“**MP4**”) has been to provide expert knowledge and advice in relation to the preparation of two management plans. I prepared the draft Waste Rock Stack Management Plan and the draft Tailings Removal and Dam Deconstruction Management Plan (“**the Management Plans**”) which are provided within *Part C – Management Plans* of the application.
3. This evidence has been prepared to accompany the Management Plans 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. These management controls are set out in the draft Waste Rock Stack Management Plan and the draft Tailings Removal and Dam Deconstruction Management Plan included within *Part C – Management Plans* 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 work as a consultant to the extractives industry and am based in Dunedin.
8. I hold a B.Min.Tech (Hons) degree in mining, with first class honours, from the University of Otago. I have spent 40 years working in the mining industry. After gaining initial experience in New Zealand, I worked in Queensland and Western Australia until 1990, when I returned to Otago to take up the role of Mine Manager at OceanaGold’s Macraes Gold Mine in East Otago. In 1999 I left Macraes Gold Mine and worked for several mining companies overseas in Australia, USA, Mexico, Bolivia, Argentina and Chile. I returned to Macraes in 2009 in the role of General Manager before taking up the role of General Manager at the Waihi Gold Mine from 2015 to 2020. I have worked as a self-employed consultant since late 2020.

9. I hold a First Class Mine Manager's Certificate of Competency – Open Cut (Queensland), an unrestricted Quarry Manager's certificate (WA), an Above Ground Production Manager qualification (NSW), an A Grade Quarry Manager's Certificate (NZ) and a Site Senior Executive Certificate of Competence (NZ).
10. I have been a member of the NZ Mining Board of Examiners since 2014. This board determines the competency requirements for the various safety critical roles required by the NZ mining and quarrying regulations and examines workers to test and determine this competence.
11. 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 for:

Macraes Phase 4 MTI and SP11A Technical Report
Engineering Geology Limited
7 August 2026

Macraes Phase Four Project Waste Rock Stacks – Geotechnical Stability
PSM
21 August 2026

Macraes Phase Four Project Open Pit Extensions – Geotechnical Stability
PSM
21 August 2026

Hydraulic Mining Pres-Feasibility Study of SP11, SP10 and MTI Tailings Storage Facilities
Agilitus
June 2026

Macraes Phase 4 Assessment of Environmental Noise Effects
Acoustic Engineering Services
27 August 2026

- (d) Draft management plans:

Air Quality Management Plan
OceanaGold
August 2026

Landscape Rehabilitation Strategy and Management Plan
Boffa Miskell
31 August 2026

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF MANAGEMENT PLANS

12. The Management Plans are still in draft form and will only be able to be finalised once the consent conditions are known and the engineers can confirm the dam safety components. However I confirm that in my opinion the Management Plans (as attached to the Substantive Application) contain 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.
13. I confirm that in my opinion the contents of the Management Plans 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.



Bernie O'Leary

Dated this 3rd day of September 2026