

File ref: FTAA-2507-1089

8 December 2025

Andrew Coleman
Chief Executive
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
C/- HNZPT Fast-track team
By email: fasttrack@heritage.org.nz

Tēnā koe

Request for advice and reports under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Matakanui Gold Limited has lodged a substantive application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) on 23 April 2025. The Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project application relates to the establishment and operation of an open pit and underground gold mine on Bendigo and Ardgour Stations in Central Otago.

The EPA has decided that the application is complete and in scope under section 46 of the Act and provided the application to the panel convener. The substantive application seeks an approval for an archaeological authority as described in section 42(4)(i) of the Act.

Under section 51 of the Act, the panel convener has now directed the EPA to obtain from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and the Māori Heritage Council reports prepared in accordance with clause 3 of Schedule 8.

The panel convener has also directed the EPA to obtain advice from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga in respect of the following:

- The panel convener has issued a Minute dated 8 December which outlines the panel convener's directions in more detail. The Minute is attached as **Appendix 1** to this letter.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and the Māori Heritage Council must provide the reports and advice requested to the EPA within 10 working day **after** the panel invites comments on the application in accordance with section 51(4)(a) of the Act.

If you have any questions, please contact Daya Thomson, Application Leader by email at info@fasttrack.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Thomson".

Daya Thomson
Application Lead, Fast-track Applications