



27 May 2025

Central Otago District Council
PO Box 122
Alexandra 9340

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Louise,

RE: SANTANA MINERALS LIMITED – FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024 – BENDIGO-OPHIR GOLD PROJECT APPLICATION

This letter confirms and officially notifies Central Otago District Council that Matakanui Gold Limited “MGL” – as a New Zealand registered company and wholly owned subsidiary of Santana Minerals Limited – will be applying for all approvals necessary under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“FTAA”) for the construction, operation, maintenance and eventual closure of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project. The Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project was listed in Schedule 2 of the FTAA, and it is intended that an application for the project will be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority by the end of June 2025.

The application will seek approval for mining and mining related activities on Bendigo and Ardgour Stations in the Dunstan Mountains of Central Otago, including (but not restricted to):

- The construction, operation and maintenance of open pit mines at four identified gold deposits named Rise and Shine, Come in Time, Srex and Srex East;
- The construction, operation and maintenance of an underground mine (the Rise and Shine Underground Mine);
- Associated ancillary facilities and infrastructure within the lower Shepherds Valley, including the establishment of a processing plant, tailings storage facilities, engineered landforms, rock and topsoil stockpiles and water storage and treatment facilities;
- A general and administration area located on the adjoining Ardgour Terrace for non-operational infrastructure; and
- Remediation and closure activities.

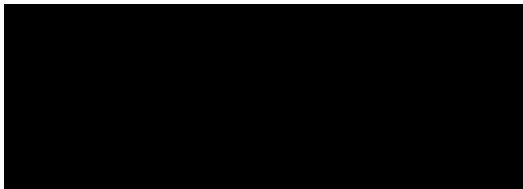
Throughout the preparation of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project, MGL has engaged a wide selection of domestic and international technical experts to assist with the design of the project and the undertaking of assessments of actual and potential environmental effects associated with the project. As a result of the inputs provided by these technical experts the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project will utilise leading-practice mining methodologies, environmental monitoring methods, and operational controls,

management, and reporting measures. Furthermore, MGL will continue to actively engage with relevant administering authorities, government agencies, environmental groups, stakeholders, and members of the community as the project progresses. These commitments will be included in the proposed consent conditions provided as part of the FTAA application.

In accordance with section 30(3) of the FTAA, it is requested that the Central Otago District Council confirms by written notice to MGL that there are no existing consents to which sections 124C(1)(c) or 165ZI of the Resource Management Act 1991 ("**the RMA**") would apply if the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project were to be applied for as a resource consent under the RMA.

If the Council have any questions or matters they would like to discuss in relation to the application for the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project under the FTAA, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,



Damian Spring
Chief Executive Officer
Santana Minerals Limited

29 May 2025

Otago Regional Council
Private Bag 1954
Dunedin 9054

By email: consent.enquiries@orc.govt.nz

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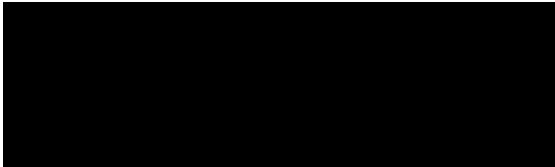
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Santana Minerals Limited