20 March 2026

Reefton Resources Pty Limited
1 Hattie Street
Reefton 7830

Attention: Simon Delander

RE: Reefton Resources Pty Limited - Auld Creek Project
Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 Referral Application
Safety-critical roles and ground pre-conditioning for near surface mining

1. Introduction

Reefton Resources Pty Limited (Rua Gold) is seeking approvals under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA) for its Auld Creek Project (the Project). The Auld Creek resource, comprising gold and antimony, is located approximately 3 km south-southeast of Reefton.

The preferred development concept involves underground mine access with surface infrastructure located on the western side of the deposit along Soldiers Road.

The Project will include an underground mine portal with associated access drives, surface infrastructure comprising mine offices and amenities, ventilation fans, workshop, an ore pad, dry stack tailings facility and a processing plant.

The operation will operate continuously, 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Rua have engaged Terra Firma to provide operational input into the mine design and mine planning activities. Rua have also sought information regarding ground consolidation options and Terra Firma's ability to provide people and equipment for the operation.

2. Location

The Project location is comprised of rural land uses (pastoral farming) surrounded by native forest and exotic forestry. Reefton township is located approximately 1.7 km from the proposed infrastructure area and is separated from the Project location by steep terrain. Reefton township is historically a mining town with a legacy of gold mining dating back to the 1860s. The region's historical mining activities, including the former Globe Progress Mine site located 2 km to the south-southeast, have shaped the local community's familiarity with mining-related activities and associated environmental effects.

3. Geological setting

The project is located within the Reefton Goldfield, a historically significant orogenic gold district hosted in Palaeozoic greywacke and argillite of the Buller Terrane. These rocks have undergone low-grade metamorphism and intense compressional deformation, producing a network of major shear zones, folds, and fractures that control mineralisation. Gold deposition is associated with quartz vein systems formed by deep crustal fluids migrating along these structures, making the setting characteristic of a classic mesothermal (orogenic) gold system.

At Auld Creek, mineralisation is hosted within a structurally-controlled shear zone system comprising multiple sub-parallel lodes, notably the Fraternal and Bonanza lodes. These lodes are typically steeply dipping to sub-vertical and extend over significant strike lengths, with drilling and surface data suggesting continuity over more than 2 km. Gold and antimony mineralisation occurs in quartz veins and breccias, with stibnite as the primary antimony mineral, and is strongly associated with arsenic–antimony geochemical signatures. The distribution of grade is controlled by plunging high-grade shoots within the lodes, often linked to structural intersections or changes in host rock competency.

4. Mining regulatory requirements

The operation will be required to comply with the Health and Safety at Work (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations) Regulations 2016.

One of the principal requirements of the regulations is the provision and appointment of safety critical roles.

The operation will also require a comprehensive risk appraisal to be undertaken to identify principal hazards associated with the mine and mining activities and prepare and submit to WorkSafe various hazard management and control plans prior to commencement of mining.

It is anticipated that safety management plans for the following operating areas will be required prior to commencement of mining:

- Roads and vehicle operating areas
- Ground instability
- Explosives
- Fire and explosion
- Air quality
- Tips, ponds, voids.

A plan to manage the risks associated with inundation and inrush will likely be required prior to level development and stoping activities.

Ventilation, mechanical and electrical control plans will also need to be developed prior to operations commencing.

5. Mining environment and ground pre-conditioning

The underground geotechnical conditions are anticipated to be challenging, particularly when mining close to surface (mining within 50m of the surface). In this zone there is an elevated risk of:

- Ground relaxation and loosening of near surface rock mass
- Unravelling of structurally controlled reef, alteration zones and weathered greenland group host rock
- Hydraulic connectivity between surface and underground workings
- Surface subsidence or localised collapse

To manage these risks, a structured ground preconditioning programme will be required as an integral part of mine development and extraction.

Ground preconditioning improves rock mass strength and cohesion, reduces permeability and minimises the risk of surface subsidence and environmental impact. Preconditioning can be achieved utilising various methods and injection materials including cementitious grouts to polyurethane resins.

Cementitious Grouting

- Microfine cement grout designed to penetrate fine fractures and permeable rock mass.
- Mixed using high-shear colloidal mixers to ensure optimal grout stability and penetration.
- Injected using high-pressure grout pump capable of 100 Bar.

Resin Injection

- Two-component polyurethane or similar resin systems suitable for rapid sealing of water inflows and consolidation of fractured ground.
- Delivered using high-pressure injection pumps designed for underground applications.
- Particularly suited for sealing active water inflows and highly fractured zones.

Effectiveness and quality control are measured and maintained through monitoring and recording of:

- Injection pressures
- Resin or grout volumes and take – any interconnection between fan holes
- Flow rates
- Injection durations
- Observed ground and water responses.

Terra Firma is a New Zealand based specialist underground contractor with extensive experience in mine development, ground support, risk management and underground compliance. The company is well positioned to support the Auld Creek Project from early-stage development, having a local presence in the West-Coast region, a strong understanding of local geology and mining conditions and engagement with local workforce and community.

To meet the regulatory requirements under the Health and Safety at Work (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations) Regulations 2016, Terra Firma has the capability to provide qualified and experienced safety critical roles including:

- Senior Site Executive
- First Class Mine Manager
- Mechanical Superintendent
- Electrical Superintendent
- Ventilation Officer
- Supervisors

In addition to these roles, Terra Firma can provide a fully functional underground workforce, and all necessary plant and equipment tailored for the Auld Creek Project.

Terra Firma also owns and operates an engineering facility in Reefton that provides:

- Maintenance and servicing of underground plant and equipment
- Fabrication and modification of mining infrastructure
- Rapid response breakdown support
- Stockholding of critical spares/consumables

Yours sincerely,

Lincoln Smith

Managing Director
Terra Firma Mining Limited