



Memorandum

To: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Expert Panel

From: Santana Minerals

Date: 17 August 2026

Re: Water Resources Impact Assessment Summary

Please find attached the report *Water Resources Impact Assessment Summary*, prepared by EMM Consulting Pty Limited. While this report was not requested by the Panel as part of Request for Information 11, Matakanui Gold Limited (MGL) has commissioned and elected to provide it to assist the Panel's consideration of the water-related aspects of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project.

The report has been prepared as an overarching summary of the extensive body of water-related technical work completed for the Project, including baseline investigations, effects assessments, modelling studies, management plans, expert evidence and information provided through the hearing and RFI processes.

The report describes the surface water, groundwater and geochemical setting of the Project area, identifies the principal water-related impact pathways and receptors, and summarises the monitoring, management, mitigation and closure measures proposed throughout the life of the Project. It also outlines the proposed compliance and performance monitoring framework, water treatment strategy, seepage management measures and flow augmentation programme.

EMM's review concludes that a substantial body of technical information has been developed to characterise the existing water environment and assess potential Project effects. The report identifies the key water-related risks associated with the Project and concludes that monitoring, management and mitigation measures have been developed to manage those risks through construction, operations, closure and post-closure phases.

The report recognises that, as with any project of this scale and stage of development, some uncertainty remains regarding future site-specific water quality and hydrogeological responses. However, EMM concludes that the existing baseline investigations, effects assessments, predictive modelling and management frameworks provide a sufficient basis to understand the key water-related risks of the Project and to implement monitoring, mitigation and adaptive management measures to manage those risks throughout the Project life cycle.

It provides an integrated summary of the existing environment, predicted effects, proposed management measures and residual risks, and demonstrates how the various technical assessments collectively support the proposed water management framework for the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project. The report concludes that, while some uncertainty remains, sufficient information is available to understand the key water-related risks and to implement monitoring, mitigation and adaptive management measures to appropriately manage those risks throughout the Project life cycle.