



To: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Expert Panel

From: Santana Minerals

Date: 17 August 2026

Re: Response to Question 1a and 1b of RFI 11

Please find attached Matakanui Gold Limited's responses to Request for Information (RFI 11) Question 1, which requested:

1. *Please provide further information to understand the downstream catchment's baseline environment including:*

- a. water quality; and*
- b. aquatic ecology.*

In response to **Question 1(a)**, MGL attaches the memorandum *Response to RFI 11 - Item 1a: Downstream Catchment Baseline Water Quality*, prepared by Julie Palich, Geocontam Risk Management Limited. The memorandum provides baseline water quality information for Bendigo Creek and the Lindis River, including results from downstream monitoring locations established to characterise receiving-environment conditions.

In response to **Question 1(b)**, MGL attaches the report *Bendigo Ophir Gold Project: Lindis River and Bendigo Creek Freshwater Ecology Survey*, prepared by Boffa Miskell Limited. The report provides an assessment of baseline freshwater ecological values within the downstream receiving environment, drawing on field surveys, historical information and eDNA analysis.

Together, these reports provide additional information on the downstream receiving environment and establish a robust baseline understanding of water quality and aquatic ecological conditions in Bendigo Creek and the Lindis River. This information will support future interpretation of monitoring results and assessment of any project-related effects.

