



Bendigo-Ophir Mine- comments from adjacent landowner Bruce Lambie

From Megan Bryan [REDACTED]
Date Thu 9/04/2026 8:15 PM
To Bendigo-Ophir Gold <bendigoftaa@fasttrack.govt.nz>

Dear Panel Members

I am writing in response to your invitation to comment on the proposed Bendigo-Ophir Mine project you are assessing.

I am a co-owner of land at [REDACTED]

I wish the panel to know that I am very strongly opposed to Santana's fast-track application.

My main concerns are as follows:

Landscape impacts. The area where Santana propose to mine is an outstanding natural landscape. Wild and largely unspoilt. This is an iconic Central Otago landscape which will be destroyed . It will become an industrial mining site on a very large scale.The toxic tailings dams left behind will be there forever!

Environmental impacts.There are serious environmental risks including the dispersal of arsenic (a potent carcinogen) from tailings dust as this is a very windy site . There will be 18 million cubic meters of toxic tailings left in the landscape forever.There is significant risk of the tailings dams breaching in the event of a major alpine fault earthquake (which is already overdue).

Water Quality. There are serious concerns about contamination of local water supply with arsenic from the tailings dams.

Pollution from the mine processing plant. Both air pollution via dust and wind and water pollution. Arsenic both in wind blown dust and in the water is a major concern that I have.

Industrial Site. At present the whole area is rural and very quiet and peaceful. This will be transformed into an industrial landscape with large machinery, significant noise from blasting, high numbers of traffic movements including many large trucks and also the impact of industrial scale lights over what is at present an incredible dark sky.

Once Santana has finished mining the area, we the local community will be left with a very scarred landscape and toxic tailings dams which will remain forever.

I have very major concerns about the impact on the environment from the proposed Santana mine and on the toxic legacy that will be left for our children and their children.



Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Santana Mine.

Yours faithfully

Bruce Lambie