



Memorandum

To: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Expert Panel

From: Santana Minerals

Date: 17 August 2026

Re: Response to RFI 11 Question 2

Please find attached Matakanui Gold Limited's response to Request for Information (RFI 11) Question 2, which requested additional information to better understand the hydrogeological characterisation of the site and wider receiving environment, including groundwater and contaminant movement, additional baseline data collection, and groundwater modelling.

In response to Question 2, MGL attaches the memorandum *BOGP Groundwater Site Investigation Memorandum*, prepared by Ryan Burgess, Hydro Geochem Group Limited. The memorandum documents the completion of an additional hydrogeological investigation programme undertaken between July and August 2026, including the installation of new monitoring wells and vibrating wire piezometers, groundwater level monitoring, groundwater quality sampling and hydraulic testing. The investigation provides additional information regarding geological conditions, hydraulic conductivity, groundwater levels, vertical hydraulic gradients and groundwater quality within both the shallow alluvial systems and the underlying schist bedrock.

The investigation findings are broadly consistent with the existing hydrogeological conceptual model and provide additional confidence regarding groundwater flow behaviour, hydraulic properties and the relationship between shallow and deeper groundwater systems within the Project area. The investigation confirms that groundwater flow is predominantly controlled by topography, with groundwater movement concentrated within shallow alluvial, colluvial and weathered bedrock units and lower permeability conditions generally occurring within the underlying fresh schist bedrock. The data also provide an improved basis for evaluating seepage pathways, groundwater monitoring locations and future performance monitoring.

MGL also submits the report *Updated Groundwater Modelling for Bendigo-Ophir Gold Deposit*, prepared by Kōmanawa Solutions Ltd. The report describes the development of an updated coupled groundwater and seepage modelling framework incorporating new hydrogeological data and assessment of a range of geological and environmental scenarios.

The updated modelling concludes that the dominant potential pathway for any uncaptured seepage is the shallow groundwater and surface water systems within the Shepherds Creek catchment, where it would be detectable through the proposed monitoring network. The modelling confirms that substantial seepage could not migrate through the deeper schist groundwater system without detection and indicates a low likelihood of meaningful undetected impacts to the wider receiving environment.

The modelling also confirms the importance of the proposed seepage collection and underdrainage systems and demonstrates that, with the proposed design measures in place, predicted seepage losses from the TSF, Shepherds Creek Engineered Landform and Shepherds Creek Valley Fill are expected to remain low and detectable through the proposed monitoring framework. Importantly, should monitoring identify seepage performance that differs from predictions, the proposed water management framework includes the ability to implement additional seepage interception and management measures to capture and control seepage before adverse effects on downstream groundwater or surface water resources occur.

Together, these investigations provide additional baseline hydrogeological information and updated groundwater modelling that improve understanding of groundwater flow systems, contaminant migration pathways, seepage interception performance and monitoring requirements. The additional field investigations and modelling support the conclusion that potential seepage migration pathways are expected to remain predominantly within shallow groundwater systems where they can be effectively monitored and managed. MGL considers that the information provided addresses the matters raised by the Panel in Question 2 and provides a robust basis for ongoing groundwater management, monitoring and adaptive management.