



To: Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project Expert Panel

From: Santana Minerals

Date: 17 August 2026

Re: Response to Question 7 RFI 11

Please find attached Matakanui Gold Limited's response to Request for Information (RFI 11) Question 7, which requested:

Please provide a quantification of the hydrology under a range of climatic conditions sufficient to sustain the proposed restoration wetlands in perpetuity. In the event that the wetlands are unable to be created and sustained, what other form of compensation is offered and how will this be addressed through conditions.

The Panel was previously provided with information relevant to the first part of this question through the Joint Response to Minute 29, including the memorandum *BOGP Wetland Hydrology Analysis*, prepared by Jim Griffiths of Hydro Geochem Group Limited. That assessment evaluated whether sufficient water would be available to establish and maintain the proposed Lower Shepherds Wetland and TSF Wetland under a range of climatic conditions. The assessment concluded that sufficient water is expected to be available to establish and sustain both wetlands, subject to detailed design and ongoing monitoring. For ease of reference, the *BOGP Wetland Hydrology Analysis* memorandum is attached again with this response.

MGL also attaches the memorandum *RAS Wetland Field Investigation*, prepared by Jim Griffiths and Ehsan Qasemipour of Hydro Geochem Group Limited. The memorandum summarises recent field investigations undertaken within the Rise and Shine wetland system to improve understanding of wetland hydrology and groundwater-surface water interactions and establishes a monitoring framework to support ongoing assessment of wetland hydrological function. The investigation confirms the complexity of groundwater and surface water interactions within the wetland system and provides additional information to support future monitoring, detailed design and adaptive management of wetland restoration outcomes.

In response to the second part of Question 7, MGL attaches the memorandum *Response to Question 7 of RFI 11*, which sets out the proposed compensation framework if any of the proposed wetlands are unable to be successfully established or sustained. The memorandum outlines a range of adaptive management, enhancement and compensation measures and explains how these outcomes will be secured through proposed consent conditions. The proposed framework provides a mechanism to achieve equivalent or greater biodiversity outcomes should the intended wetland restoration outcomes not be realised.

Together, these documents provide further information on the long-term hydrological sustainability of the proposed restoration wetlands and the contingency measures available should those wetlands be unable to be successfully established or maintained.