

OCEANAGOLD (NEW ZEALAND)
LIMITED

MACRAES PHASE FOUR (MP4)

Pest Control and Elimination

Evidence of Dr Helen Blackie
Regarding Technical Assessment of
Pest Control for compensation and
Proposed Conditions

INTRODUCTION

1. My name is Dr Helen Margaret Blackie
2. My role in relation to Macraes Phase 4 (“**MP4**”) has been to provide expert advice in relation to pest control activities. I wrote the Pest Control and Elimination Plan (“**the Report**”) which is provided within *Part B – Technical Reports* of the application.
3. This evidence has been prepared to accompany the Report and the application by Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OGNZL**”) for approvals required for MP4 under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”).
4. Section 4.1(h) of the FTAA Panel Conveners’ Practice and Procedure note (July 2025) says all technical experts authoring reports should include a statement regarding compliance with the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses. This evidence has been prepared to fulfil this requirement, and if a hearing is not held, this evidence confirms that, relative to my area of expertise the Report provides an appropriate description of the relevant environment, the proposed activities comprising the effects of the MP4 on that environment, and the way those effects are proposed to be managed.
5. My findings are set out in full in the Pest Control and Elimination Plan included within *Part B – Technical Reports* of the application.
6. While this application is not being considered by the Environment Court, I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses contained in the Environment Court of New Zealand Practice Note 2023 and that I have complied with it when preparing the Report. Other than when I state I am relying on the advice of another person, the Report is within my area of expertise. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express.

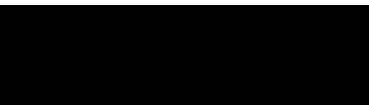
QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

7. I hold the qualifications of BSc in Biological Science (2002), MSc (first class honours) in Biological Science (2005) and completed a PhD in Environmental Science (2010), all from the University of Auckland.
8. I am currently employed as a Director and Principal Ecologist at Alliance Ecology Ltd and have held that position since November 2024. I am also co-founder and Research Lead at the tech start-up Critter Solutions Ltd. My previous work experience includes almost 11 years as an Associate Partner at Boffa Miskell Ltd, 5 years as the Associate Director at the Centre for Wildlife Management and Conservation at Lincoln University and previous to that I worked for the Department of Conservation.

9. In providing this evidence, I have considered the following matters as relevant to that topic:
- (a) The project description provided by OGNZL as set out in Section 6 of the Substantive Application prepared by Mitchell Daysh Limited;
 - (b) The description of the existing environment as set out in Section 4 of the Substantive Application, the effects of MP4 on that environment and their significance, and the proposals to manage those effects as all set out in the assessment of effects in Section 9 of the Substantive Application; and
 - (c) The technical assessments of Biosearches, including the Residual Effects Analysis, Lizard Management and Monitoring Plan and Ecological Impact Assessments.

CONFIRMATION OF CONTENTS OF REPORT AND PROPOSED CONDITIONS

10. I confirm that in my opinion the Report contains an accurate and appropriate description of the environment, the actual and potential effects of MP4, and the recommended actions to manage those effects within my area of expertise.
11. I confirm that in my opinion the contents of the Report may be relied on in making a decision on the approvals sought for MP4, and confirm that provided effects within my area of expertise are managed as proposed in the application those effects will not be unacceptable and will be managed to a standard that I consider meets good practice.
12. I confirm that I have reviewed the conditions that OGNZL proposes for the various approvals being sought as they relate to my area of expertise. I confirm that in my opinion those proposed conditions are appropriate.



Dr Helen Blackie

Dated this 1st day of September 2026