

Before the Independent Hearing Panel

In the Matter of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

And

In the Matter of an application to the Central Otago District Council and Otago Regional Council for resource consent to establish and operate a gold mining activity at 1346 – 1536 Teviot Road, Millers Flat

Reference RC230325 (Central Otago District Council)
RM23.819 (Otago Regional Council)

Supplementary Statement of Dr Barrie John Wills on behalf Hawkeswood Mining Limited

(Ecology - Botany & Soils)

Dated 25 June 2024

Jeremy Brabant
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Introduction

1. My full name is Barrie John Wills. I am a Principal Scientist consulting as Central Environmental Services since 2004, based in Central Otago. I hold the qualification of Bachelor of Science in Plant Genetics (Hons) from Canterbury University and a Post-graduate Doctorate in high country revegetation enhancement, utilising symbiotic mycorrhizal inoculation.
2. I confirm that I have continued to comply with the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses in preparing this supplementary statement.

Overview of Supplementary Statement

3. My supplementary statement will address the following:
 - a. The Tima Burn Enhancement proposal;
 - b. The Rehabilitation and Enhancement Management Plan (**REMP**);
 - c. The Topsoil Rehabilitation Management Plan; and
 - d. My comments on the proposed draft ORC and CODC Consent Conditions.

Tima Burn Enhancement Proposal

4. The initial design of the Tima Burn enhancement planting proposal was prepared by Mike Moore Landscapes. I confirm that I have reviewed that document and concur with the proposal as presented.
5. I note that a subsequent email has been received from Aukaha via Mr Vial with additional suggestions regarding management of planting stocks and other complimentary species for consideration. This material has been incorporated into the proposed enhancement plan.
6. I confirm that I have reviewed the Draft Rehabilitation and Enhancement Management Plan Rev. B (**REMP**) as prepared by Enviroscope. In my opinion, providing there is no significant departure or variance from the

measures detailed in the REMP and supporting documentation, the report is appropriate in respect of achieving the stated terrestrial (botanical and soils) ecological and rehabilitation outcomes, and the proposed enhancements will have a net positive value on terrestrial (botanical and soils) ecology.

Proposed Management Plans

7. I confirm that I prepared the 'Topsoil Resource and Management Plan for Disturbed Land Rehabilitation associated with the Teviot Gold Mine'. This document provides a detailed assessment of soil management considerations and appropriate management responses and solutions. In my opinion, providing there is no significant departure or variance from the measures detailed in the Topsoil Report, it will adequately provide for the life supporting capacity of soils and help achieve the stated topsoil rehabilitation outcomes.

Comments on Draft Conditions of Consent

8. I have reviewed proposed conditions of consent attached to the supplementary statement of Ms Collie.
9. **Consent Conditions – ORC:** Having reviewed the proposed ORC Consent Conditions, no items relevant to biodiversity/botanical ecology or soil rehabilitation were found.
10. **Consent Conditions – CODC:** I agree with proposed conditions relevant to my expertise. I note with respect to condition 44 that bund composition and maximum heights can differ between topsoil and subsoil/gravel fill as referred to in the Topsoil Management Plan and REMP.

Conclusions

11. With reference to the relevant management plans, the consent conditions reviewed above will be appropriate to manage onsite terrestrial (botanical and soils) ecology effects, assuming no significant departure or variance occurs from the measures detailed in those plans.

12. I have reviewed the condition set as supplied by Ms Collie and consider that they are appropriate in respect of terrestrial (botanical and soils) ecology.

Dr Barrie J Wills

Dated 25 June 2024