

RM23.819 Hawkeswood Mining Limited – Summary, Danielle Ter Huurne

Please see my summary below. I am happy to provide a more detailed summary in writing.

1. As outlined in my Section 42a report, I am satisfied that adverse effects on surface water quality, aquifer allocation, natural character and amenity values, other water users, freshwater ecology and air quality can be appropriately managed and mitigated. Given Ms Badenhop's evidence, there is still a level of uncertainty in respect of effects on groundwater quality.
2. I note that I had turned my mind to adverse effects on historic heritage values in my report, given that the exercise of the land use consent, being the progression of the mine pit pond, would impact those values. However, I acknowledge that the archaeological sites are within the jurisdiction of CODC, and I therefore refer to Ms Stirling's assessment in that regard.
3. The effects on cultural values still remain unresolved. Given the position of Ka Runaka, there is still information to be worked through to understand effects on those values. Whilst I am satisfied that adverse ecological and hydrological effects are acceptable, there is insufficient information to assess the level of effect on the metaphysical aspects of water, such as mauri.
4. Given Mr Vial's evidence, and the remaining information gaps that he has identified, I consider that there is currently still insufficient information to fully assess consistency of the proposal with the relevant statutory documents from a cultural perspective, in particular, the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, the operative and proposed Regional Policy Statements, and Regional Water Plan.
5. Having undertaken another site visit and walked part of the Clutha Gold cycle trail, I have reconsidered the effects on public access and am satisfied that the proposal is consistent the relevant objectives and policies in this regard.
6. Given the above, at this stage, my recommendation to decline the application, remains unchanged. However, I am happy to reconsider this upon receipt of further information, and am happy to provide comment on, and work through, the draft conditions with all parties.