

**Before Southland Regional Council
and Gore District Council**

In the matter of the Resource Management Act 1991

And

In the matter of the hearing of submissions on applications for resource consent
by Waikaka Gold Mines Limited to establish and operate a
mineral extraction activity (APP-20242608 and LU 24035)

Joint Witness Statement in relation to River Engineering and Flood Hazard Matters

Dated 26 November 2025

Hearing Date 3 December 2025

Expert conferencing held on: 25 November 2025

Venue: By telephone

Attendance

1. The participants in this session were:
 - (a) Ramon Strong – river engineering witness for Waikaka Gold Ltd (**Applicant**);
 - (b) Harry (Hank) Stocker – river engineering witness for Environment Southland (ES).

Basis of attendance and Environment Court Practice Note 2023

2. The participants agree to the following:
 - (a) The Environment Court Practice Note 2023 provides relevant guidance and protocols for the expert conferencing session;
 - (b) They will comply with the relevant provisions of the Environment Court Practice Note 2023 and this joint witness statement (**JWS**) has been prepared in accordance with clause 9.5 of that document;

- (c) This statement is to be provided to the Hearing Panel following signing in accordance with the Environment Court Practice Note 2023.

Key Information Sources Relied On

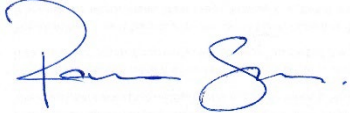
- 3. The following material has been reviewed by and/or relied on by the experts when coming to our opinions:
 - (a) The relevant parts of the application including the technical work by RJ Hall & Associates;
 - (b) Evidence of Hank Stocker provided as part of the ES s 42A Report, including the appended report “*Resource Consent application review: Waikaka Gold Mine River Engineering Report*” dated December 2024;
 - (c) Evidence of Ramon Strong dated 18 November 2025.

Matters considered at Conferencing – Agenda and Outcome

- 4. The following matters were discussed at conferencing:
 - (a) Catchment characteristics – we agree that the environment is modified, the effects related to the activities proposed are likely to be transient/ localised and the mitigations proposed are adequate / proportionate to those expected effects;
 - (b) Effects of the proposal – we agree that:
 - (i) The 20-year Return Period event is an appropriate design standard for this project and we are otherwise comfortable with the design flows and modelling approach used;
 - (ii) For the reasons stated in our evidence, flooding effects associated with a 20-year return period will be imperceptible in terms of flow depth and velocity;
 - (iii) At larger events, the effects will remain negligible given the nature of the valley floor and the downstream controls.
 - (c) Proposed conditions:

- (i) We note the conditions proposed by the applicant relating to Flood Mitigation (attached as Appendix 1) adopt the recommended conditions in the GDC s42A report with the addition of “channel maintenance” as a matter to be addressed in the required Flood Management Plan.
- (ii) We agree those conditions will appropriately control flood risk for the proposal, and that the addition of “channel maintenance” is a useful addition for the Flood Management Plan. That addition responds to Mr Strong’s evidence that the Plan should include an inspection and maintenance regime for the temporary and restored sections of channel;
- (d) There were no matters on which we considered there was outstanding information or on which we were disagreed.

Confirmed 26 November 2025

Expert’s Name	Party	Signature
Hank Stocker	Environment Southland	
Ramon Strong	Applicant	

Appendix 1 – Flood Mitigation Conditions (per evidence of Anita Collie)

Flood Mitigation

112. All temporary diversion channels and reconstructed sections of the Waikaka Stream and Shepherd's Creek must have sufficient capacity to contain a 1 in 20-year AEP flood event.
113. Prior to the commencement of mining the consent holder must submit to the Gore District Council a Flood Management Plan (FMP) for certification that it meets the requirement of this condition. The FMP shall outline the proposed flood management provisions and procedures to be followed to manage flood hazard, including:
 - a. The design plan for temporary bunding in accordance with the recommendation of the report titled: RE: Updated Diversion Details, Flood Hazard Analysis, and Flood Mitigation Evaluation Summary Report — Waikaka River (REVISION B), by RJ Hall and Associates Ltd, dated 31/05/2024.
 - b. Monitoring of rainfall and river flows.
 - c. Identification of rainfall and river flow triggers for action.
 - d. Any temporary stabilisation works that need to be completed.
 - e. Access routes for removal of equipment if necessary.
 - f. Site inspections.
 - g. Channel maintenance.
 - h. Notification and reporting requirements.