

From: bligh.vergeer@gmail.com
To: [RPS](#)
Subject: RPS submission
Date: Thursday, 2 September 2021 8:08:31 p.m.
Attachments: [bligh_vergeer-form-5-written-submissions-form-on-proposed-otago-rps-2021.pdf](#)

Hello,

Please see attached my submission regarding the proposed ORC RPS.

Kindly reply to confirm receipt.

Thank you

Bligh

Written Submission on Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021

(Submissions must be received by Otago Regional Council by 3 pm Friday 3 September 2021)

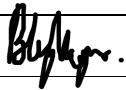
To: Otago Regional Council

1. **Name of submitter** *(full name of person/persons or organisation making the submission. Note: The submissions will be referred to by the name of the submitter)*

Bligh Vergeer

2. This is a submission on the **Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021**.
3. I **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. *(See notes to person making submission)*
4. I **am not** directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that
- a. adversely affects the environment; and
 - b. does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition *(See notes to person making submission)*
5. I **do not wish** to be heard in support of my submission
6. If others make a similar submission, I **will** consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing
7. **Submitter Details**

- a. **Signature of submitter** *(or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter)*



- b. **Signatory name, position, and organisation** *(if signatory is acting on behalf of a submitter organisation or group referred to at Point 1 above)*

Name

Position

Organisation

- c. **Date**

02 September 2021

Address for service of submitter (*This is where all correspondence will be directed*)

d. Contact person (*name and designation, if applicable*)

Bligh Vergeer

e. Email:

bligh.vergeer@gmail.com

f. Telephone:

0273482224

g. Postal address (*or alternative method of service under [section 352](#) of the Act*):

84 Greenock Street, Kaikorai, Dunedin 9010

8. My submission is:

<i>Column 1</i>	<i>Column 2</i>	<i>Column 3</i>	<i>Column 4</i>
<i>The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are:</i>	<i>I support, oppose or seek an amendment</i>	<i>The reasons for my views are:</i>	<i>I seek the following decision from the local authority:</i>
See relief below	Amend and incorporate proposed relief below.	The proposed RPS completely ignores the positive contributions of Otago's mining industry The previous versions of the RPS recognised and provided for the extractive industry in Otago. The proposed RPS is silent.	That the following relief, reflecting the value of Otago's extractive industry, is incorporated into the RPS.

		<p>A modern society that is carbon neutral and environmentally aware, relies heavily upon mining.</p> <p>Copper is needed for electric cars, Gold for circuit boards, Tungsten for cutting tools. All three of these have been, or are currently being, mined successfully within Otago.</p> <p>If the mining of essential minerals is ignored or deterred by ORC's RPS, more mining will occur elsewhere.</p> <p>Out of sight, out of mind, in countries where health, safety, carbon emissions, and the natural environment are completely disregarded in extracting the commodities we need for our "environmentally friendly" technologies.</p> <p>Most contemporary mining techniques leave no lasting environmental impact. A relevant Otago example is suction dredging for gold - a process that extracts gold from active riverbeds, leaves no trace, produces no contaminants, provides seasonal employment for many artisanal miners, and full-time employment for some.</p>	
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Proposed Relief

That the following objectives and policies are incorporated into the RPS.

Objective X.X

Sufficient land is managed and protected for economic production

Policy X.X.1

Manage activities in rural areas and support the region's economy and communities, by:

- a) Enabling primary production and other rural activities that support that production;
- b) Providing for mineral exploration, extraction and processing;

Policy X.X.2

To recognise the functional needs of mineral exploration, extraction and processing activities to locate where the resource exists.

Policy X.X.3

Manage adverse effects from the exploration, extraction and processing of minerals, by:

- a) Giving preference to avoiding their location in the following:
 - i. Areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna in the coastal environment;
 - ii. Outstanding natural character in the coastal environment;
 - iii. Outstanding natural features and natural landscapes, including seascapes, in the coastal environment;
 - iv. Areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna beyond the coastal environment;
 - v. Outstanding natural character in areas beyond the coastal environment;
 - vi. Outstanding natural features and landscapes beyond the coastal environment;
 - vii. Outstanding water bodies or wetlands;
 - viii. Places or areas containing historic heritage of regional or national significance where the effects on that historic heritage cannot be avoided;
- b) Where it is not practicable to avoid locating in the areas listed in a) above due to the functional needs of that activity, the activity shall:
 - i. Avoid, remedy or mitigate, as necessary, adverse effects on values in order to maintain the outstanding or significant nature,
 - ii. Consider first biological diversity offsetting, and then biological diversity compensation for residual adverse effects,
 - iii. Consider environmental compensation if adverse effects on indigenous biological diversity, cannot practically be avoided, remedied or mitigated;
 - iv. Avoiding, remedying, or mitigating adverse effects on other values including highly valued natural features, landscapes and seascapes in order to maintain their high values;
 - v. Reducing unavoidable adverse effects by staging development for longer term activities and progressively rehabilitating the site, where possible.