

Otago Regional Council
Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021
(excluding parts determined to be a freshwater planning instrument)

DECISION OF HEARING COMMISSIONERS
on request for amendment to evidence timetable

[Minute 3]

INTRODUCTION

1. By memorandum dated 17 October 2022, Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited sought a direction that the evidence timetable be extended to account for the Otago Regional Council (ORC) filing its supplementary evidence late.
2. The Hearing Commissioners, by Minute 2 dated 21 October 2022, invited feedback from the parties. The time for receiving that feedback was set at 5.00pm Wednesday 26 October 2022.
3. When the period for lodging feedback expired, 23 parties had responded in the affirmative to the requested amendment. No party had opposed the request.

CONSIDERATION

4. The Hearing Panel has carefully considered the implications of the delay in ORC publishing its completed supplementary evidence on its website and of the amendments sought to the timetable for the conduct of the hearing and the statutory date by which a decision on submissions must be issued by the Council.
5. The requested amendment, we note, extended the overall date by which all evidence is to be lodged with Council by three working days. In the circumstances of the request, we do not believe this will give rise to any detrimental effect on the hearing which is scheduled to commence on Monday 23 January 2023.

DECISION

6. The timetable for the lodging of evidence with Council, and its publication on Council's website, is hereby amended as follows:
 - a. All evidence in chief including expert evidence received by ORC by Wednesday 23 November 2022
 - b. Evidence in chief available on ORC website by Wednesday 30 November 2022
 - c. Any Rebuttal evidence received by ORC by Wednesday 14 December 2022
 - d. Rebuttal evidence available on ORC website by the end of Monday 19 December 2022

Ron Crosby for and on behalf of the Panel

27 October 2022