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| Before the Independent Commissioners |  |
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| Under | the Resource Management Act 1991 |
| In the matter of | a hearing on submissions on the proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan Hearing Topics 1 and 2Submitter **Whyte Gold Limited (S607)** |

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| Statement of Evidence of Iain Whyte  |
| 2 October 2023 |
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**Introduction**

1. My name is Iain Whyte.
2. I am the owner and sole director of Whyte Gold. I have authority to give evidence on behalf of Whyte Gold Limited.
3. My previous work experience includes 40years of mining and related businesses within New Zealand, Canada and Chile.

**Company overview**

1. Whyte Gold have been operating in Dunganville and wider Greymouth and Hokitika areas for the past 25 years or more. Initially our mining activities were focussed on the Dunganville and New River areas and eventually included mining sites at Kapitea, the Greenstone and Rimu channel near Hokitika.
2. Currently Whyte Gold is mining at the Rimu channel near Hokitika with another miner as tribute miners. Whyte gold is also mining at Dunganville.
3. Whyte Gold has interests in the following permits,
* MP 60367 (Rimu Channel) (Tribute Miner)
* MP 60557 (Arahura Valley) (Land owner)
* MP 41871 (Dunganville)
* MP 41818 (Dunganville)
* EP 60458 (New River)
1. Currently the company employs 17 people. They are spread between the two mining operations and workshop which services the mining fleet.
2. Whyte Gold has worked as a mining contractor to permit holders within the district where mining works are undertaken on behalf of the permit holders and a percentage of the gold is paid back to the permit holder. Whyte Gold has also worked as an owner operator.
3. Whyte Gold has mined on Ngai Tahu Forestry land where rehabilitation involves preparing land to be planted with pine trees and works in with harvest cycles. And currently mining is undertaken on private land where the rehabilitation involves levelling and contouring and putting the land into productive pasture.
4. Whyte Gold employs people from Hokitika and Greymouth. The contribution to the local community is significant through these employment opportunities, with highly skilled machine operators able to remain in the district for work.
5. Whyte Gold uses a number of local service providers and contractors to support its mining operation which include suppliers of fuel, hydraulics, mining equipment and consultants (such as engineers). Mining activitiie allow for continued employment opportunities and investment in the district by Whyte Gold.
6. Whyte Gold actively supports local community groups, in particular the speedway. Like other mining companies Whyte gold has machinery, equipment and expertise for its operations that is also transferable to community projects which it supports.
7. Whyte Gold have land or other interests which are located where the mineral are - within the General Rural Zone, Open Space Zone, Natural Open Space Zone, and Mineral Extraction Zone in the TTPP. We support the enabling of mining in the TTPP, including in these zones.

**Iain Whyte
2 October 2023**