BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED ON BEHALF OF CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT COUNCIL

Under	The Resource Management Act 1991 (the **Act**)
In the Matter	of an application for Resource Consent for the purpose of mining at Sandy Point, Queensbury
Between	**AWA KOURA MINING LIMITED** **Applicant**
And	**CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT COUNCIL** **Territorial Authority**

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE – DANIEL WALKER

DATED 28 OCTOBER 2026

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SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF DANIEL WALKER

1. My name is Daniel Walker. I am a director and the majority shareholder of Awa Koura Mining Limited. I live in Golden Bay, and I am a goldminer.

2. As discussed in my brief of evidence, I have extensive experience gold mining and through Awa Koura's sister companies, we currently operate multiple gold mines in Otago and the West Coast.

3. My summary evidence will focus on the proposed mine, the noise evidence, and the proposed conditions.

4. We have a mining permit and have identified an economic gold resource in the alluvial gravel deposit next to the Clutha River. We expect that 3 years will be required to mine the resource. So we have an agreement in place with the landowner to mine the land before the subdivision development starts.

5. The basic operation is simple. The mine will use a floating dredge and screen fed by an excavator. As the excavator progresses, gravel is fed through a screen and re deposited behind. So the pond gradually moves and is filled in as it goes. The screen plant utilises water taken directly from the pond and discharged back to the pond as it goes.

6. Progress of the mine will occur in stages, with a maximum of 2ha active mining area at any one time. Topsoil will be managed separately and progressively returned to previously mined areas and regressed. The land will be grazed by the landowner as it is returned to pasture.

7. These operations require well-maintained equipment and efficient processes. In my experience, that is critical both to the economic success of the operation and to minimising environmental effects.

8. Our application sought consent for a 10-hour working day, 5 days per week. This is a shorter working week than is typical for a short-term operation such as this. But we chose to offer shorter hours to try to benefit the neighbours. Then, in response to the Styles report recommendation, we offered to shorten machine hours again to 8am-5pm. That is less than ideal for us, but compares very favourably with the consented operating hours of 7am-7pm Monday to Friday and 7am-1pm Saturdays at Hawkeswood Mining, further down the valley. They also have a 55dBA L10 daytime noise limit at any notional boundary. We do not see why we should be singled out for special treatment.

9. We are generally in agreement regarding most of the proposed consent conditions. A key point of disagreement is the geotechnical reporting condition proposed by the Council.[1]

10. We sought deletion of this condition as it is a private matter between the us and the Landowner. We instead propose a condition requiring rehabilitated building platform areas to be reinstated no lower than existing ground levels. This addresses the flood risk issue while avoiding the need for a certification process.

Dated 28 October 2026

D Walker

[1] S 42A report, Appendix 1: Recommended consent conditions, at proposed conditions 44 and 45.