

**Before the Independent Hearing Panel**

**In the Matter** of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

**And**

**In the Matter** of an application to the Central Otago District Council and Otago Regional Council for resource consent to establish and operate a gold mining activity at 1346 – 1536 Teviot Road, Millers Flat

**Reference** RC230325 (Central Otago District Council)  
RM23.819 (Otago Regional Council)

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**Evidence of Andrew Hawkeswood on behalf Hawkeswood Mining Limited  
(Corporate)**

**Dated 29 April 2024**

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Jeremy Brabant  
Barrister  
Foundry Chambers  
Level 4, Vulcan Buildings  
PO Box 1502, Shortland St  
Auckland City  
021 494 506  
Email: [jeremy@brabant.co.nz](mailto:jeremy@brabant.co.nz)

## Introduction

1. My full name is Andrew Theodore Hawkeswood.
2. I am the director and shareholder of Hawkeswood Mining Limited and Hawkeswood Civil Limited. The companies are New Zealand owned.
3. I have been involved in infrastructure projects, construction and demolition waste recycling, resource recovery, exploration, drilling, and mining for 29 years.
4. In 2005 my wife Kelly and I purchased the alluvial gold mining assets and permits from Kaipara Limited (KL), a mining and earthmoving company started by Kelly's grandfather Lachlan Drinkrow.
5. KL started alluvial gold mining on the West Coast in the 1950s and Kelly's father Bruce Drinkrow continued mining on the West Coast in the 1970s and 80s. In the 1990s the KL operation shifted to Central Otago until it was acquired by Hawkeswood Mining Limited in 2005.
6. Two of our children, Jack and Ella, are employed by Hawkeswood Mining Ltd, making them the 4th generation of our family involved in gold mining.
7. Since 2005, Hawkeswood Mining Ltd have mined and rehabilitated two other similar alluvial gold mining projects in Central Otago, as well as others in Southland and Blenheim, at times employing more than 30 people across the South Island.
8. We currently have the largest inventory of mining equipment available in Central Otago, including the largest operational alluvial mining dredge in New Zealand.
9. I have been involved with this project at Millers Flat working alongside Simon Johnstone for the past 3.5 years. Together we have supervised permit applications, landowner consultations and access agreements, exploration planning and mobilization, mine planning, overseeing the resource consent application and initiated public engagement.

10. Hawkeswood Mining Ltd has invested over \$12 million dollars into alluvial gold mining in Central Otago in the past 3 years, mostly in the Millers Flat Project. This has been entirely self-funded within the companies.
11. Since 2005 we have employed at any one time, a minimum of 4 people in Central Otago, and a times more than 25 people. In the last 3 years, the number of full-time positions associated with the Millers Flat project has never been less than 4 with a maximum of 14 at one point.
12. In my experience with similar mining projects, and current budgets, we are expecting 20 - 25 full time employment opportunities on site at Millers Flat, with a further 8-10 off site and subcontractor positions.
13. We expect to fill 90% of the employment positions from the local and wider Millers Flat community.
14. At current gold prices and salary rates, we expect to add over \$90 million to the wider economy over the life of the mine with approximately \$28 million in local employment remuneration and royalty payments.
15. We use the services of the following local providers: Accommodation, restaurant and catering, printing and stationary supplies, mechanical and engineering, hydraulic hose repair, electrical, auto electrical, irrigation, fencing, drilling experts, tyre fitters, steel work fabrications, conveyer belt specialists, fuel and oil suppliers, and engineering suppliers. The contribution to the local economy will be significant.

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**Andrew Hawkeswood**

Dated 29 April 2024