

24 November 2025

Fast-track Approvals application accepted by EPA

Santana Minerals Limited ("Company" or "Santana") is pleased to advise that the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has formally accepted the Company's application under the Fast-track Approvals Act (FTA) for the development of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project in Central Otago, New Zealand.

EPA acceptance confirms that the Company's submission meets all lodgement requirements under the FTA, allowing the application to proceed into the assessment phase.

The application will now be considered by the Panel Convener to determine the makeup of an expert panel. By the time the expert panel is convened, a date must be set down by which the panel must make a decision, which is expected to take approximately six months.

CEO Damian Spring said the acceptance is a significant step forward for the Project:

"We are very pleased the EPA has accepted our FTA application for processing. This is a major procedural milestone for the Project and demonstrates the strength of the work completed to date. We look forward to constructive engagement with the EPA, and other agencies as the assessment progresses. Meantime, we remain focussed on detailed planning to place orders for long-lead items and the early works program."

Subject to a positive outcome from the FTA process, construction of the Bendigo-Ophir Gold Project is expected to commence in mid-2026.

Santana will continue to update the market as the application advances through each stage of the FTA process.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board.

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