

Consultation Summary – OGNZL

WAIHI NORTH PROJECT – CONSULTATION SUMMARY

1 BACKGROUND

OceanaGold Corporation is a gold producer with over 30 years of operating responsibly in New Zealand. The company was founded in New Zealand, at Otago's Macraes operation (which it continues to operate) and has built an international portfolio as one of the most progressive gold miners in the world. OceanaGold's acquisition of Waihi Gold in 2015 deepened these Kiwi roots, enabling it to share decades of mining innovation and leadership to advance the development of Waihi's gold and silver resources.

At Waihi, OceanaGold currently operates a successful mining operation and is actively exploring in the region. The company also has underground and surface mines at the Macraes operation in the South Island, as well as mines in the Philippines and the United States. OceanaGold is also actively closing a mine at Reefton in the South Island, having successfully and responsibly operated that mine on Department of Conservation administered Forest Park.

In July 2020, OceanaGold published its Waihi District Study which outlined possibilities for new mining, processing, and storage facilities in and around Waihi. OceanaGold subsequently announced, and began consulting on, its intentions to develop Project Quattro and the Wharekirauponga Exploration Tunnel Project (WKPET).

At the time, Project Quattro comprised the following four main components:

- The Martha Open Pit Phase Five – An expansion of the existing Martha pit.
- The Gladstone Open Pit – A new, smaller pit to the west of the OceanaGold Waihi processing plant.
- Tailings Storage – Increasing tailings storage capacity by constructing a new tailings storage facility (TSF3) immediately east of the current facilities.
- The Northern Rock Stack – A new rock storage facility to the north of the current tailings storage facilities.

The proposed WKPET, which was for exploration purposes only, comprised the following three main components:

- 6.8 km Tunnel – A single exploration tunnel extending from a portal on private farmland at the end of Willows Road Waihi, to the base of the Wharekirauponga resource.
- Ventilation Raises – Up to five ventilation raises required for air circulation and to provide an emergency exit from the tunnel.
- Willows Road Surface Infrastructure – To facilitate the construction and maintenance of the exploration tunnel, some surface infrastructure would have been constructed on private land at the end of Willows Road.

Since that time OceanaGold has undertaken further technical and exploration studies, which have confirmed the viability of an underground mine at Wharekirauponga. As a result, in June 2021 the company shared its intention to apply for approvals to develop an underground mine at Wharekirauponga and construct the related infrastructure to support this. OceanaGold named this the Waihi North Project.

The Waihi North project integrates some elements previously proposed under Project Quattro and the WKPET and has five main components:

1. Wharekirauponga Underground Mine – A new underground mine at Wharekirauponga, just north of Waihi, and associated infrastructure at a portal entrance on private land at the end of Willows Road, Waihi.
2. Gladstone Open Pit – A pit directly to the west of the OceanaGold Waihi Processing Plant.
3. Tailings Storage – Increasing tailings storage capacity by constructing a third tailings storage facility (TSF3) immediately east of the current facilities and adding tailings storage within the Gladstone open pit on completion of mining.
4. Northern Rock Stack (NRS) – A rock storage facility to the north of the current tailings storage facilities.
5. Processing Plant Upgrade – Increasing throughput capacity at the existing Processing Plant.

In the transition from the previously proposed Project Quattro and WKPET to the Waihi North Project the majority of what was initially proposed in July 2020 remains unchanged, and thus the previous engagement on these elements remains relevant to this report.

2 APPROACH TO CONSULTATION BY OCEANAGOLD

This report summarises the pre-application consultation carried out by OceanaGold in relation to the Waihi North Project. OceanaGold believes that understanding the relationship between the business and the external context is crucial to effective stakeholder engagement and that building trust through the sharing of information and perspectives is critical to project development decision making.

With this in mind, OceanaGold adopted the following objectives and principles with regard to consultation for the Waihi North Project:

- Engage through listening and meaningful dialogue through all stages of the project, whilst respecting local cultures and acting in good faith.
- Share relevant company information that helps affected stakeholders to understand the impacts, risks and opportunities of the project.
- Ensure that engagement between OceanaGold and its stakeholders on matters that impact them is organised and iterative.
- Participate and where possible partner with stakeholders to identify impacts and develop mitigation or enhancement solutions.
- Recognise the distinct and special rights, interests, cultural values and connections to land and waters of iwi.
- Create a constructive relationship that maximises the potential for achieving agreed outcomes with stakeholders.
- Wherever possible obtain and sustain broad based support for the project.

OceanaGold initiated consultation on the various elements of the project in July 2020. This has allowed for over four years of consultation with key stakeholders and the general community (less formal engagement with iwi and regulators began much earlier, around 2017). OceanaGold's intention was to initiate consultation early, whilst technical assessments were still in their infancy, to allow adequate time for stakeholder concerns to be given regard and where possible accounted for.

An important feature of the consultation programme for the Waihi North Project was that OceanaGold has well established positive working relationships with key stakeholders. Modern mining has been taking place in Waihi since 1987 and OceanaGold and its predecessors have maintained active and transparent engagement with their stakeholders throughout this time. These existing relationships have provided a solid platform for understanding and respecting diverse viewpoints, and have been vital in ensuring community input contributed to the initial, and final project designs.

3 KEY CONSULTATION EVENTS AND FORUMS

3.1 Community Engagement Line

OceanaGold Waihi operates a free 0800 number Community Engagement Line. As always, this has been available seven days a week. Stakeholders are encouraged to phone the line if they have any questions or concerns about the proposed project. Where appropriate, OceanaGold engagement staff often follow these calls up with visits to the home of the stakeholder to provide them further information.

3.2 Community Group Presentations

OceanaGold has presented on the proposed Project to numerous local community groups and organisations. During these presentations a high-level explanation of the proposed project was provided, and stakeholders had the opportunity to ask questions or seek clarity on any aspect of the proposal.

The following groups were presented to:

- Bowentown Boating and Sport Fishing Club
- Go Waihi Business After Five
- Gold Discovery Centre Staff
- Grey Power Whangamata
- Katikati Business Association
- Thames Probus Club
- Victoria Battery Railway/Tramway
- Waihi Athletic Rugby Club
- Waihi Baptist Church
- Waihi Beach Focus Club
- Waihi Community Forum
- Waihi Community Resource Centre
- Waihi Drama Society
- Waihi Heritage Vision
- Waihi Lions Club
- Waihi Pastor Cluster
- Waihi Real Estate Group
- Waihi Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Waikato Conservation Board (together with the Chairperson of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board).
- Whangamata Harbour Care
- Whangamata Tramping Club

3.3 Expert Days

OceanaGold have hosted a series of 'Expert Days'. During these events the external consultants preparing the relevant technical reports for the Waihi North Project, and OceanaGold subject matter experts, are available at the Company's Project Information Office to speak directly with interested Stakeholders.

In these one-on-one sessions stakeholders are given a short presentation on the findings to date of the expert's relevant technical assessment and given the opportunity to ask questions, seek clarity, and provide feedback.

The opportunity to attend an expert day is advertised in the local HC Post Newspaper (20,000 copies distributed serving Tairua, Whangamata, Waihi, Paeroa, Thames and the Hauraki Plains), and on OceanaGold Waihi's Facebook Page. Often, letters or flyers have also hand delivered to proximity residents encouraging these stakeholders to attend.

At the time of writing, the following Expert Days have been held, with further events planned for post lodgement:

- **TSF3 and the Northern Rock Stack, 30 November 2021**

Dr. Trevor Matuschka and Eric Torvelainen of Engineering Geology Ltd. were on hand to talk to their technical assessments for the proposed new Tailings Storage Facility and Northern Rock Stack.

- **Landscape and Visual Effects, 25 January 2022**

Rhys Girvan of Boffa Miskell was on hand to talk to the proposed changes to the landscape associated with the project. This included both through the duration of the project as well as after rehabilitation works.

- **Road and Traffic Effects, 21 July 2022**

Ian Carlisle of Stantec was available to discuss the findings of his independent Transportation Assessment, which evaluates the project's effects on traffic, both on local roads and at their access points to the arterial state highway network.

- **Noise Effects, 16 September 2022**

Steve Peakall of Marshall Day Acoustics was available to discuss the findings of his independent Noise Assessment for the project.

- **Blasting and Vibration, 29 November 2022**

Dr. John Heilig of Heilig and Partners was available to discuss the findings of his independent Vibration Assessment for the project.

- **Air Quality Effects, 25 May 2023**

Richard Chilton of Tonkin and Taylor was available to discuss the findings of his independent Air Quality Assessment for the project.

- **Social Impacts, 17 April 2024**

Hilary Konigkramer of WSP was available to discuss the findings of her independent Social Impact Assessment for the project.

- **The Amenity Effects Programme, 17 April 2024**

OceanaGold Waihi's Senior Environmental Advisor, Russell Squire, was available to explain the Amenity Effects Programme, and how it is proposed to be extended to include elements of the Waihi North Project.

- **Meet the General Manager, 19 June 2024**

OceanaGold Waihi's General Manager, Justin Johns, was available to meet with the community, and answer any general questions stakeholders may have had about the Waihi Operation, and proposed projects.

- **The Chemistry of Mineral Processing, 21 August 2024**

OceanaGold's Principal Metallurgist, Kirsty Hollis, was available to meet with the community, and answer any general questions stakeholders may have about mineral processing, and the cyanidation chemical process.

- **Tailings Storage Facilities, 23 October 2024**

Eric Torvelainen of Engineering Geology Ltd. was again available to discuss their technical assessments for the proposed new Tailings Storage Facility Three, as well as answer any questions stakeholders may have had about tailings storage more generally.

- **Landscape and Visual Effects, 4 February 2024**

Rhys Girvan of Boffa Miskell was again available to discuss proposed changes to the landscape associated with the project. This included both through the duration of the project as well as after rehabilitation works.

- **Blasting and Vibration, 25 February 2024**

Dr. John Heilig of Heilig and Partners was again available to discuss the findings of his independent Vibration Assessment for the project.

3.4 Meetings and Individual Consultation

OceanaGold believes that meeting directly with affected proximity residents and stakeholders is the most effective mechanism for ensuring that their individual concerns and aspirations are understood.

At the announcement of the Project OceanaGold staff door-knocked over 40 individual properties and met with residents to explain the proposed project, answer questions, and seek their feedback. If the resident was not home a calling card was left requesting them to contact OceanaGold to arrange a time to meet that best suited them.

Following these initial meetings, iterative communication has continued with those stakeholders who have requested it. This has included further meetings as well as responding to phone and email queries, concerns and requests that have been made.

Numerous meetings have also been held with the Blackhill Motocross Club and Waihi Mountain Bike Club, whose access to facilities across OceanaGold owned land or facilities on OceanaGold owned land (respectively), would be impacted by the proposed Gladstone Open Pit. At the time of writing, OceanaGold and the Blackhill Motorcross Club have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which outlines a commitment from OceanaGold to provide alternative access to their facilities, across OceanaGold owned land. A second MoU with the Waihi Mountain Bike Club, which pertains to providing access to alternative Company Owned Land for reestablishing a Mountain Bike Trail and offering funding to support this, has been agreed upon in principle.

3.5 Open Days

Three OceanaGold hosted Waihi North Project open days have been held, as follows:

- Friday 24 July 2020, between 10AM and 2PM, at the Memorial Hall, Waihi.
- Saturday 25 July 2020, between 10AM and 2PM, at the Memorial Hall, Waihi; and
- Saturday 30 November 2024, between 10AM and 2PM, downstairs at the OceanaGold Moresby Ave Offices, Waihi.

These locations were selected as central convenient locations for those residents and groups who were likely to be most impacted by the Project, and the open day events provided the opportunity for people to find out as much information as they wanted about the proposal, and to provide feedback.

To achieve this, project team members and OceanaGold staff were available for one-on-one dialogue with attendees. Detailed information panels, overview booklets, videos and plans were also on display to assist in ensuring that a full understanding of the Project could be obtained from attending the open days.

Each of the open days were advertised in the local HC Post Newspaper and on OceanaGold Waihi's Facebook Page.

3.6 Project Information Office

Since July 2020, OceanaGold has maintained a Project Information Office at 86 Seddon Street, Waihi (the main street of Waihi) for the purpose of ensuring that reliable information about what the company is proposing and what it means for stakeholders is readily available directly from the Company. During this time, the office has consistently been open from 10 AM to 2 PM, Monday to Friday. However, since 2024, these hours have been extended to 9:30 AM to 4 PM. Additionally, during key milestones, such as the announcement of the project, the office hours have been further extended to include Saturday mornings.

The Project Information Office has copies of detailed information brochures and other project materials available, along with an OceanaGold staff member to answer questions and listen to views and ideas. It has been crucial in ensuring that stakeholders have easy access to balanced and objective information, helping them understand the project, its impacts, and its benefits. Additionally, it provides another mechanism for stakeholders to offer feedback and request further information.

The Project Information Office and its opening hours are advertised on the company's website, as well as in all OceanaGold engagement materials.

Since it opened, there have been over 3,700 visits to the Project Information Office.

3.7 Project Tours

Site tours were offered to interested stakeholders throughout October and November 2021, and in June 2023. During these tours, stakeholders had the opportunity to experience OceanaGold's Education Centre underground simulator, and examine the sites of the proposed TSF3, NRS and GOP. They were also shown the existing Union Hill easement as an example of what the surface expression of the mine vents would be within the Forest Park administered by the Department of Conservation.

The tours were hosted by OceanaGold staff members and ran for between 1.5 hrs to 2.5 hrs, departing from, and returning to, the OceanaGold Education Centre on the corner of Moresby Road

and Savage Avenue. The majority of the tours ran on weekdays from 10AM, however, the option of evening tours was also made available.

In addition to these project specific tours, annually since 2020, OceanaGold has partnered with the Gold Discovery Centre to offer free mine tours to Waihi residents, providing them the opportunity to 'get inside the fence' and experience modern-day gold mining up close, and develop an understanding of how OceanaGold Waihi currently operates.

The opportunity to participate in a tour is typically advertised in the local HC Post Newspaper, as well as on OceanaGold Waihi's Facebook Page.

3.8 Waihi Community Forum

The Waihi Community Forum (WCF) was formed after the 2011 announcement of the Correnso underground mine in the east of Waihi. In 2018, after the announcement of the recently consented Project Martha, WCF with support from Hauraki District Council and OceanaGold, expanded its scope to represent residents of the wider Waihi area.

WCF is funded by OceanaGold and is made up of two representatives from OceanaGold, two from Hauraki District Council and up to five members drawn from the Waihi community. Its purpose is to receive, respond, and report on comments from the community on issues relating to OceanaGold's mining activities in Waihi. WCF also plays a vital role in contributing towards a thriving and sustainable Waihi community through its implementation of initiatives funded through the Streets Ahead Programme.

Stakeholders with an interest in the proposed Project who would rather not deal directly with OceanaGold or the Hauraki District Council, are encouraged to contact the Forum with their concerns and aspirations.

4 ENGAGEMENT MATERIAL

4.1 Gold FM Advertorial

Prior to the radio frequency being sold in November 2021 OceanaGold ran regular advertorials on the local radio station Gold FM. The advertorials were used to announce the Project, publicise engagement events, advise where more information could be found, and provide general commentary on the Project. Each advert would run for between two to four weeks before being replaced by an updated advert with fresh content.

4.2 OceanaGold Update

The OceanaGold Update is a monthly full-page advertorial in the HC Post newspaper.

The OceanaGold Update has been used to announce the Project, publicise engagement events, advise where more information can be found, and provide general commentary on the Project. Interim ad-hoc advertorials have also been published in the HC Post by OceanaGold, as necessary, throughout the pre-lodgement engagement period.

The OceanaGold Update is also published on the Waihi Gold website, as well as posted around the Pit Rim Walkway.

<https://www.waihigold.co.nz/newsletters/the-waihi-gold-update/>

4.3 Project Overview Booklet and Fact Sheets

It is important to OceanaGold that the information it provides to its interested stakeholders is balanced, objective and communicated in plain language, free of technical jargon.

At its announcement in June 2021, a Waihi North Project Overview Booklet was published by the Company together with a series of fact sheets, that endeavored to summarise the proposed project and effects management activities as thoroughly as possible, whilst remaining understandable to the general public. These have been iteratively updated over time, as the project has been refined, with the most recent version dated November 2024.

4.4 Project Website

Since July 2020 information on the Project has been available on OceanaGold's dedicated project website: <https://www.waihinorth.info/>

The information on the website includes a general overview of the history of the Waihi operation, a description of the proposed Project and its various elements, details around the indicative construction and operational methodologies and processes, and examples of the types of effects mitigation activities that might be applied by the Company.

4.5 Truescape Project Animation

OceanaGold engaged visualisation experts Truescape to develop an animation that succinctly illustrates and explains the Waihi North Project. The result is available for viewing on the Waihi North Project Website: <https://www.waihinorth.info/>

The project animation has been a crucial tool for concisely communicating what is a large and complex proposal. The animation is available on the Waihi North Project website, on OceanaGold Waihi's Facebook page, in the Project Information Office, as well as on YouTube. The animation was also shared with stakeholders during the project tours and open days.

5 SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS AND FEEDBACK

5.1 Accommodation

During engagement, stakeholders often expressed concerns that the proposed increase in workforce numbers to support the project, combined with an already strained accommodation market in the area, could result in housing shortages, higher demand for rental properties, and increased living costs for existing residents.

In response, OceanaGold engaged WSP to complete a Workforce Accommodation Assessment for the proposed project. This assessment considered the various workforce groups required to support the project, the skills profile of each group, the extent of offshore and local involvement, and the anticipated extent of local workforce participation, to determine the potential accommodation requirements for the project. This was then compared to the existing and expected future capacity of both long-term and short-term accommodation in the area, and recommendations were made on appropriate ways OceanaGold could support the required accommodation needs of the project.

The assessment concluded that there will likely be enough long- and short-term accommodation in the region to meet workforce accommodation demands during Years 1 to 4 of the project. However, it also determined that, without a market response to the accommodation demand, there will likely be

insufficient accommodation in the broader local area to support the needs in the later stages of the project.

As such, OceanaGold has commenced several initiatives intended to a) reduce the project's accommodation demand (by endeavoring to hire from the existing local labour pool where possible; noting that there are several specialist roles which will likely need to be sourced from outside the local area), and b) increase the available accommodation to support the project. These initiatives are summarised at a high-level below, with more detailed information on these (as well as the Workforce Accommodation Assessment), provided in the WSP Social Impact Assessment for the project:

- A commitment to ensure that agreements with project contractors include specifications to hire general labour from the local area wherever possible, and to maximise local workforce participation through training and skills development. Discussions with potential contractors on this matter have already begun.
- The development of a Skills Development and Training Action Plan for the WNP, led by OceanaGold in collaboration with local secondary and tertiary education providers, industry training organisations, and other relevant groups. As part of this initiative, the company has already commenced a driver licensing programme, hosted career days, provided first aid training for local college students, expanded the Waihi Gold Mine Education Trust's scholarship programme to include school leavers entering the trades, and is in the process of refreshing the site's internship and apprenticeship programmes.
- OceanaGold-owned residential properties will remain available for rent to house staff, contractors, and the public, helping to increase the supply of rental properties in Waihi. A "stock-take" of the company's property portfolio is currently in progress to optimise the use of these properties, including evaluating the potential construction of additional homes, if deemed necessary.

5.2 Air Quality

Air quality, specifically dust, was raised as a potential impact of the Project by a number of Stakeholders. These concerns ranged from the potential amenity effects associated with dust, through to concerns of how it may impact their health.

Stakeholders who currently collect drinking water from the roof of their property were concerned about what might happen if dust settled on their roof prior to a rainfall event. One stakeholder was concerned about how, if not managed appropriately, dust might impact the effectiveness of their existing solar power system.

The Waihi Operation has been effectively monitoring and managing inhalable gasses or particulates to meet strict air quality consent limits in the vicinity of Waihi operations since 1982. If the Waihi North Project is approved, OceanaGold plans to monitor and manage air quality in accordance with an Air Quality Management Plan, as is the process for our existing operations. There are a range of air quality management measures proposed to be implemented across the life of the project as necessary to meet the requirements of this plan, including:

- Watering haul roads where required.
- Vehicle and equipment maintenance programmes.
- Dust collectors and filters on drill rigs.
- Keeping stockpiles low, so the wind is less likely to spread dust.
- Optimal blasting techniques, using quality blasting compounds and blast-hole stemming.
- Progressive rehab, and the planting of pasture to cover long-term stockpiles.
- Establishing conservative speed limits around the site and having sealed high-use roads.
- Washing vehicles before leaving the site to travel on public roads.

Further to the above, OceanaGold has an established complaints procedure in place designed to address concerns promptly and effectively as they arise, which will be continued for the Waihi North Project. A central feature of this process is the 0800 freephone Community Engagement Line, which is available 24/7.

5.3 Biodiversity

Many stakeholders have highlighted the significance and sensitivity of the Wharekirauponga area and its ecology. The Wharekirauponga area is home to several native and endemic species, and it is important to stakeholders that measures are taken as part of the Project to improve outcomes for biodiversity, including Archey's Frog. The protection and enhancement of wetlands was also raised by stakeholders as an important consideration for the project.

In recognition of this, OceanaGold has designed the Waihi North Project to have the smallest practicable surface expression within the Forest Park to minimise any impacts on the ecology of the area. The company is dedicated to maintaining operations in a responsible manner and has applied an effects management hierarchy to ensure that any adverse effects associated with the project are as small as is practicable, and any residual effects are offset.

Further to this, a key project commitment is to create a sustainable initiative that will lead to a biodiversity net gain throughout the life of the project and beyond. As part of this commitment, as an additional conservation outcome not required for effect mitigation or offset, OceanaGold has proposed to enter into a broad scale biodiversity enhancement programme in the Southern Coromandel out to at least 2050, designed in collaboration with iwi, and with a value of at least \$8.4 million. The Biodiversity Project represents a significant, long-term commitment to the ecological values of the Forest Park and would support an environmental net gain in the area, as well as New Zealand's Predator Free vision.

5.4 Economics and Employment

Most stakeholders acknowledged that gold mining in Waihi has been a continued source of jobs and prosperity for the local, regional, and national economies. It was also generally accepted that the increased production and additional economic activity from the Waihi North Project has the potential to make a meaningful contribution to local employment and allow local businesses further time to plan for the mine's eventual closure.

The preference of stakeholders was for these economic and employment benefits to be distributed locally, wherever possible, through local procurement and employment. In response to this point, OceanaGold has committed to ensure that agreements with project contractors include specifications to hire general labour from the local area wherever possible, and to maximise local workforce participation through training and skills development.

The company has also begun developing a Skills Development and Training Action Plan for the Waihi North Project, led by OceanaGold in collaboration with local secondary and tertiary education providers, industry training organisations, and other relevant groups. As part of this initiative, the company has already commenced a driver licensing programme, hosted career days, provided first aid training for local college students, expanded the Waihi Gold Mine Education Trust's scholarship programme to include school leavers entering the trades, and is in the process of refreshing the site's internship and apprenticeship programmes.

5.5 Helicopter Activities

An increase in proposed helicopter activities for the project was raised as a concern by several stakeholders. These concerns focused on the potential impact of frequent helicopter flights on

people's amenity, particularly in terms of noise disruption. Additionally, it was noted that the general nuisance of increased helicopter activity, regardless of noise, was seen as an interference with stakeholders' daily lives and the potential overall enjoyment of their property.

In response to these concerns, a third helipad has been proposed as part of the project, in addition to the two existing sites that OceanaGold currently has access to in the Waihi area. If approved, this will provide more flexibility in helicopter routing and enable more frequent alternation of flight paths, potentially offering periods of respite for affected areas and reducing the frequency of concentrated helicopter activities.

Further to this, helicopter activity for the project will wherever practicable adhere to the "Fly Neighbourly" guidelines published by the Helicopter Association International and recommended by the New Zealand Helicopter Association. These guidelines are designed to minimise noise and disturbance to local communities. OceanaGold is committed to working closely with the helicopter contractor to ensure that flights are generally conducted in accordance with these guidelines, with the aim of minimising any impact on the amenity and daily lives of nearby stakeholders.

5.6 Landscape, Natural Character and Visual

Some stakeholders expressed concerns about how the proposed Project may modify the existing environment and natural character of the project locality. This was largely in relation to the Willows Rd Surface Infrastructure Area, Gladstone Open Pit, TSF3, and NRS.

Some neighbouring residents raised a specific concern that the Project will substantially change their existing outlook and impact their ability to enjoy their property. Feedback was given that, where possible, rehabilitation of disturbed areas should be done progressively as areas became available and not left to the end of the Project.

Given the predominantly underground nature of the proposed Waihi North Project, there are only a limited number of project elements that may result in visual effects. However, in response to concerns raised by stakeholders about how surface components of the project may alter the landform and be visible from surrounding areas, OceanaGold has made efforts to locate these components thoughtfully; including siting surface facilities in areas that are protected by existing landforms, or by retaining other existing visual screening. One example of this is the commitment to retain as many of the existing pine trees as possible on the southern side of Gladstone Hill to provide screening from the proposed pit.

OceanaGold also commits to managing the potential landscape, natural character, and visual effects of the project by ensuring that rehabilitation occurs progressively, with additional vegetation planting also proposed where necessary, to further enhance screening.

5.7 Noise

Stakeholders cited noise as a potential amenity impact that needed to be managed if the Project was to go ahead, particularly noise associated with any proposed 24hr operations. For most stakeholders in close proximity to the various elements of the Project, noise is an issue that they believe will change their existing context and impact on the enjoyment of their property.

Stakeholders also noted the importance of respite from noise and suggested designing the Project in a way that allowed for periods of low/no activity, particularly at night. This concept was of particular importance for stakeholders who currently spend large periods of time in their home i.e. work from home or are retired.

Since modern mining began in Waihi in 1987, a variety of controls have been put in place to minimise the impact of noise. OceanaGold will continue to manage its activities to comply with the strict noise limits proposed for the Waihi North Project. The company plans to do so through a Noise Management Plan, similar to the approach taken for its existing operations. A range of noise management measures will be implemented throughout the life of the project, as needed, to meet the requirements of this plan. These measures include:

- Localised screening, including shrouds for drills.
- Acoustic cladding around potentially noisy plant or machinery.
- Equipment selection.
- Noise mitigation, such as mufflers, fitted to equipment.
- Regular checks and maintenance of equipment.
- The construction of noise screening, such as noise bunds, closed board fencing, or acoustic noise walls (if necessary).
- Limiting the height of temporary stockpiles.
- Management of activities undertaken at night, to ensure strict night time noise limits can be complied with.

Further to the above, OceanaGold has an established complaints procedure in place designed to address concerns promptly and effectively as they arise, which will be continued for the Waihi North Project. A central feature of this process is the 0800 freephone Community Engagement Line, which is available 24/7.

5.8 Property Value

One of the key concerns raised by stakeholders throughout consultation to date, is the potential for the Waihi North Project to devalue property due to perceptions of adverse mining effects. This includes the following subsets of this impact:

- The feeling of 'being trapped' due to not being able to 'stop' the Project or sell their property for market value.
- The loss of any additional value through improvements to their property (reluctance to commit to any future plans they had for upgrade, or subdivision, of their property due to the uncertainty of the proposed project).

In response to these concerns, OceanaGold has committed to implementing a Top Up management measure to mitigate any potential impact of mining activities on property values. This initiative has been successfully applied by OceanaGold and its predecessors in the past and involves the company making up the difference between a 'fair price' offered by a purchaser, and a 'fair market value' sought by a vendor (within specific criteria); ensuring that they get market value from the sale.

Although not directly related to property value concerns, OceanaGold is also proposing a one-off ex gratia payment to landowners whose property is located directly above the tunnel between the Willows Road Site and the existing Waihi Processing Plant. This practice has been commonly applied to the company's other mining activities beneath the residential areas of Waihi, and involves providing the property owner with a one off lump sum payment equal to 5% of their property's agreed market value at the time.

5.9 Property Damage

For property owners directly above the proposed Interconnecting Ore Transport Tunnel, and adjacent to the proposed Gladstone Open Pit, and TSF3 and NRS borrow areas, there were multiple concerns raised around the potential for mining activity to damage their property. The perceived cause of the potential damage was associated with vibration from blasting, as well as perceived risk of surface instability associated with dewatering and subsidence.

In response, OceanaGold is proposing consent conditions for vibration that are in line with the conditions of our other mining operations in proximity to residential Waihi, and will ensure vibration levels are well below the level where property damage could occur. Nevertheless, it is recognised that there can be concern around what OceanaGold would do if mine-related activity caused property damage.

As such, the company has a 'We Break, We Pay' procedure in place to assist owners if they believe their property may have been damaged. As part of this process, if it is determined that property damage is attributable to OceanaGold's activities, the company will remedy the damage at our cost.

5.10 Recreation

Wharekirauponga was regarded as an important recreational area, known for its popularity as a pig hunting spot and its appeal to those seeking remote tramping experiences. Stakeholders viewed the construction of the Vent Shafts, increased exploration activity, and the associated noise from their operation, along with the potential vibrations from underground blasting, as threats to the enjoyment of the area

The Waihi Mountain Bike Track and Blackhill Motocross Track, located on or near the proposed Gladstone Open Pit, were also identified as important recreational facilities for the Waihi community. Stakeholders expressed a strong desire for these tracks to be preserved, replaced, or enhanced as part of the Waihi North Project.

In response, OceanaGold have actioned the following in support of the continued provision of these valued community recreational facilities:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been established between the Company and Blackhill Moto-X Club, for the provision of an alternative access to the Moto-X Track.
- A MOU, which pertains to providing access to alternative OceanaGold owned land for reestablishing a mountain bike trail and offering funding to support this, has also been agreed upon in principle with the Waihi Mountain Bike Club.

While not directly related, it's also worth noting that OceanaGold recently made a \$150,000 donation to the Waihi Community Forum in support of their Pump Track project at Morgan Park, Waihi, in partnership with the Hauraki District Council. The pump track is a key part of a larger planned outdoor recreation hub in the area. OceanaGold continues to support the initiative through ongoing funding for the Waihi Community Forum Coordinator.

In terms of potential effects on recreation in the Forest Park, OceanaGold's view is that the underground nature of the proposed project limits the potential of these impacts. However, in response to the concerns raised, the company has proposed a multi-criteria analysis approach to selecting the suitable drilling and vent shaft locations. This approach includes a requirement to consider the proximity of the proposed sites to the Te Wharekirauponga Track, with a positive weighting given to suitable sites further away from the track.

5.11 Rehabilitation and Closure

The importance of appropriate rehabilitation and closure planning was a common theme raised by stakeholders throughout the consultation undertaken to date. This theme not only covered ensuring that localised impacts on the environment were mitigated in the long-term through rehabilitation and remediation activities, but also the importance of ensuring adequate resources were allocated for mine closure and ongoing maintenance of the closed sites. Guaranteeing the ongoing integrity of the existing and proposed Tailings Storage Facilities was of particular importance to stakeholders.

All OceanaGold's New Zealand operations have closure plans in place, which are reviewed annually. The Waihi North Project will be integrated into the existing Waihi plan. Additionally, OceanaGold has proposed a consent condition that commits the company to conducting a closure socio-economic impact assessment at least five years before closure, to help guide the closure planning process.

Bonds are integral to responsible closure, and ensure that approved rehabilitation plans are carried out, even in the unlikely event the company is no longer around to complete the work. As with our current Waihi operation, rehabilitation activities will take place progressively throughout the life of the project where practicable. The bond amount will continue to be reviewed annually and adjusted to reflect new areas of operation, completed rehabilitation, and changes due to factors like inflation.

When closure is achieved, ownership of the areas of OceanaGold land affected by mining will pass to an existing charitable trust called the Martha Trust, which would be funded by an additional Bond. The trustees include regional and district council appointees, with provision for iwi to also nominate trustees, and their responsibility will be to monitor and maintain that land in a safe and stable condition in perpetuity (forever) using funds provided for that purpose by OceanaGold.

5.12 Tailings Storage

Some stakeholders raised concerns with how Tailings Storage Facilities are built, maintained, and managed. Specifically, concerns were raised relating to the geological setting of New Zealand and any potential risks to the facilities' structural integrity should a significant earthquake occur. Some concerns were also raised with the use of cyanide in the processing of gold and silver, and the potential toxicity of the Tailings Storage Facilities as a result of this process.

In response, the proposed Tailings Storage Facility Three has been designed in accordance with the New Zealand Dam Safety Guidelines, published by the New Zealand Society on Large Dams (NZSOLD), which are based on international best practices. Once constructed, monitoring of water quality, structural integrity, and other operational aspects will be ongoing for the TSF. As part of this process, a Dam Safety Management Plan will be implemented, as is the case for our existing facilities. This plan involves monitoring and surveillance of performance data, which is interpreted and assessed by the design engineer. Annual reports on the safety and integrity of the TSF will also be produced, all of which will be reviewed by an independent peer review panel, to ensure the continued performance and safety of the TSF.

5.13 Traffic

Residents on Willows Rd and Highland Rd expressed concerns regarding an increase in mine-related vehicle activity in the area. In particular they were concerned about the potential amenity and safety impacts associated with an increased volume of a traffic, as well as the inconvenience associated with any works required to improve the road and intersection. Two property owners on Willows Road also cited the impact of increased traffic on their ability to cross livestock over the road.

In response, OceanaGold is proposing to monitor and manage traffic through a comprehensive Traffic Management Plan. This plan will cover the construction programme for the project, anticipated traffic volumes and routes, driver protocols, potential effects on farm operations, interactions with school bus routes and timetables, monitoring activities (including road pavement), and communication arrangements.

A key component of this plan and ensuring the safe accommodation of the expected traffic volumes for the project, is the development of an expanded car park within the existing Martha Pit area. This car park will function as a staging facility for a "park and ride" system, enabling staff to be transported to and from the Willows Road site by bus, thereby reducing the number of private vehicles on the road.

5.14 Vibration

Residents in close proximity to the proposed Project, particularly those adjacent to the Gladstone Open Pit and TSF3 and NRS borrow areas, or directly above the proposed Interconnecting Transport Tunnel, raised vibration from blasting as one of their concerns.

The effect that most concerned people was the potential for vibration to damage their property. Also noted was the amenity effect associated with vibration. The effects of vibration on livestock and agriculture were also raised as a particular concern for some residents, specifically, what the impact of vibration might be on dairy cows (fears it could cause them to 'go dry') and horses (fears blast vibration might startle the animal causing it to injure itself).

In response, OceanaGold has proposed strict consent conditions for blast vibration that we believe appropriately combine the requirements of protecting the amenity of the residents of Waihi and preventing damage to buildings or disturbance of the natural environment in other areas, whilst also allowing for a scale of drilling and blasting appropriate for mining. The company will also extend the following existing vibration management measures to apply throughout the life of the project:

- Provision of a blast warning system via a device that provides an audible alarm immediately before a blast, provided by OceanaGold Waihi to stakeholders within residential areas near operations, if desired.
- Daily notifications to stakeholders within residential operational project areas if blast activity is planned for that day, provided via email, SMS text, or phone call, if desired.
- Ensuring blasting times, and vibration monitoring results within the Waihi residential area, are published on the company's website.
- The Amenity Effects Programme (AEP), which aims to offset any potential reduction in residential amenity from vibration and establishes an arrangement between OceanaGold Waihi and residents identified as experiencing these effects; despite the mining operations being conducted within consent compliance limits.

Further to the above, OceanaGold has an established complaints procedure designed to address concerns promptly and effectively as they arise, which will be continued for the Waihi North Project. A central feature of this process is the 0800 freephone Community Engagement Line, which is available 24/7.

5.15 Water

This theme includes waterways, water quality, groundwater, water take, water treatment, and water discharge. It was seen as essential that as part of the Project steps should be taken to protect and enhance waterways and waterbodies. How water treatment and discharge was proposed to be managed was seen by stakeholders as essential to this.

The impact of mining on groundwater and aquifers was also highlighted as a specific concern by several stakeholders, particularly regarding how dewatering to enable mining beneath the Department of Conservation Forest Park could affect the flora and fauna at the surface.

Some residents adjacent to the proposed operation also feared that mining activity could cause their deep water bore to 'dry up', which would have implications related to water access and supply.

In response, an extensive programme of water monitoring and management has been proposed as part of the Waihi North Project, which will operate throughout the life of mine, and beyond. This programme has been informed by leading experts engaged by OceanaGold. The project has also been designed in a way that ensures all water that is impacted by mining is captured and treated, with a priority to first divert clean water where practicable.

Regarding concerns about the potential for mining activity to cause private water access bores to "dry up," the company's expert advice indicates that this is extremely unlikely. However, to address these concerns, conditions have been proposed for the project requiring OceanaGold to provide alternative water access if it is determined that a bore has been impacted by mining activities.

6 CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

OceanaGold has sought to be open and transparent with the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai (DOC) with respect to its intentions to apply for approvals to develop an underground mine at Wharekirauponga and construct the related infrastructure to support this.

As the Wharekirauponga mineral exploration programme is located on land administered by DOC, since December 2016 OceanaGold has operated under an Access Arrangement (AA) and associated annual Authority to Enter and Operate (AEO) for exploration activities. Throughout exploration activities at Wharekirauponga OceanaGold has worked with DOC to ensure that all activities including drilling work within the Wharekirauponga AA area have been undertaken in a manner that is protective of conservation and recreation values (biodiversity and amenity), as reflected in AA conditions. OceanaGold has demonstrated a commitment to considering these conditions throughout the development of the technical studies required to support the resource consent application for Waihi North Project.

OceanaGold's engagement with DOC commenced in June 2020 in relation to Project Quattro and transitioned into engagement in relation to the Waihi North Project. Regular engagement meetings with DOC staff were established from December 2020 to provide regular progress updates and information such as the Truescape animation and project overview materials, and the opportunity for the exchange of views.

Since the June 2021 announcement of the Waihi North project DOC has visited OceanaGold's Waihi Operation on a number of occasions. For example, in October 2021 DOC attended a site visit focussed on tailings storage and underground activities. This has provided the opportunity for DOC to see and hear first-hand how OceanaGold plans to develop and implement the Waihi North Project. OceanaGold also recognises the Waikato Conservation Board's advisory and community liaison role with DOC and the board members and DOC representatives were hosted on site in 2022.

OceanaGold has also provided DOC with draft technical reports and offered direct engagement between technical experts on topics of interest, this process is ongoing. Throughout this engagement DOC has communicated to OceanaGold their desire for the project to account for, and safeguard, the cultural, social, recreational, and environmental values of Wharekirauponga and the surrounding area.

7 CONSULTATION WITH FOREST AND BIRD

At the announcement of the Waihi North Project in June 2021, an email was sent to the Thames-Hauraki branch of Forest and Bird providing them an overview of the Project and extending an offer to meet to discuss it further. Forest and Bird did not take up this offer.

In September 2021, Forest and Bird contacted OceanaGold seeking information on the status of the resource consent application for the Project. Forest and Bird were advised that OceanaGold were still completing the technical and effects assessments required to support the Project and had not yet lodged any formal applications. In this response, another invitation was made to meet and discuss the Waihi North Project in detail. Again, Forest and Bird did not take up this offer.

8 CONSULTATION WITH FISH AND GAME

At the announcement of the Waihi North Project in June 2021, an email was sent to the Auckland-Waikato branch of Fish and Game providing them an overview of the Project and extending an offer to meet to discuss it further. Fish and Game did not take up this offer.

9 CONSULTATION WITH THE HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

OceanaGold recognises the importance of working with the local community to create opportunities, build resilience and leave a positive, long-lasting legacy well beyond the mining lifecycle. To achieve this, it was paramount that the HDC (as the consent authority, relevant landowner and roading authority) was involved with project development from the outset.

OceanaGold has long-standing and established relationships with HDC representatives and has endeavoured to keep these communication channels open throughout the pre-lodgement consultation period. Fortnightly consenting progress meetings with HDC's Senior Planner have been held since the outset of the project. Other meetings and formal engagement have also taken place on the project, including a number of presentations at Council Meetings, updates to the Chief Executive Officer, and several site visits.

Throughout engagement, HDC have provided guidance and advice to OceanaGold on their expectation for adequate community and iwi engagement for the Project, citing the need for project decision making to be informed by stakeholder engagement. HDC representatives also acknowledged the significant role mining plays in the economic and social wellbeing of the region but have been clear in the need for the Council to weigh these effects against any potential adverse negative effects associated with the project. In response to this, where possible OceanaGold has provided HDC the opportunity to review and make comment on the relevant draft technical assessments prepared for the Waihi North Project prior to their lodgment.

In June 2022 an application for resource consent for the project was made to HDC under the RMA. That application was subject to a detailed evaluation by the council, and their technical experts, leading to requests for further information covering a wide range of topics. That application has not been notified and will be withdrawn when the substantive fast-track application is accepted as complete. The updated application made under the Fast-Track Approvals Act is substantially the same project as that which was applied for under the RMA in 2022, and addresses the matters raised by the council in their section 92 RMA requests. Technical reports responding to most of those requests have already been provided to and reviewed by the council, and their experts.

Most recently, in Q1 2025, OceanaGold provided the updated proposed draft conditions for the project to the council for consideration.

10 CONSULTATION WITH HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND

OceanaGold acknowledges the important role of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga in preserving New Zealand's cultural heritage. In recognition of this, the company has engaged with the agency to provide an overview of the proposed project. This included a meeting at their Auckland offices in January 2025, where the project was discussed in detail, along with the Clough and Associates Historic Heritage Assessment, which was shared with Heritage New Zealand in draft prior to the meeting.

Additionally, a heritage authority application for the proposed Willows Road Surface Facilities area is currently under consideration by Heritage New Zealand, outside of the proposed Fast Track Approvals process. OceanaGold is committed to continuing to work closely with the agency to ensure the project is respectful of New Zealand's cultural heritage and complies with all necessary heritage requirements and approvals.

11 CONSULTATION WITH THE MARTHA TRUST TRUSTEES

OceanaGold regularly meets with the Martha Trust Trustees to provide updates on the Waihi Operation and proposed projects, often attending the Trust's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Several meetings focused specifically on the Waihi North proposal have also been held to inform the Trustees about the project, including providing information regarding the additional land to be vested to the Trust at the completion of closure and rehabilitation activities. These meetings included briefings from OceanaGold representatives, as well as site visits to the proposed areas, and the broader site.

In 2021 the Trust's deed was updated to allow for the transfer of additional land to the Trust at closure, as needed for future projects and planned mining works. While the Trustees have advised that they have appreciated the transparency regarding the Waihi North proposal, it was generally agreed that the Trust's functions would not be enacted until the site enters closure.

OceanaGold are scheduled to meet with the Trustees again at their AGM in late March 2025, to provide an update on the Waihi North Project's Fast-Track Application. Engagement with the Trust will continue throughout the life of the project, as it has for OceanaGold's existing operations.

12 CONSULTATION WITH LAND INFORMATION NEW ZEALAND

OceanaGold has engaged directly with Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) in relation to the project since March 2020. This engagement has been in respect to elements of the project that relate to Crown property and property access. This has included meetings, provision of project overview materials and the Truescape animation, and a site visit.

Additionally, since 2018 OceanaGold has engaged directly with LINZ Overseas Investment Office (OIO) in several transactions to obtain necessary regulatory approvals to purchase land required for the project. This included property acquisition for the NRS, for the proposed TSF3 and for the Willows Road Surface Infrastructure Area. These transactions were approved by the OIO and relevant Ministers based upon satisfaction of the benefit to New Zealand test under the Overseas Investment Act. The land acquired for Tailings Storage Facility Three was also subject to High Court proceedings brought by Coromandel Watchdog seeking to challenge aspects of the regulatory approval process for that transaction. The approval process was upheld.

OceanaGold has had, and continues to have, interactions with LINZ Land Registration for technical transactions ancillary to the project, such as property boundary adjustments and the registration on land titles of unformed road realignments. The company also reports regularly to the OIO against conditions imposed for any regulatory approvals given.

13 CONSULTATION WITH THE THAMES-COROMANDEL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OceanaGold provided written notice to Thames-Coromandel District Council (TCDC) on 19 February 2025 of the company's intention to apply for all approvals necessary to authorise the WNP under the Fast Track Approvals Act, together with an overview of the limited activities (related to environmental monitoring) proposed to take place in the TCDC area.

This letter was followed up with a meeting on 24 February 2025, between representatives from OceanaGold and TCDC. During the meeting, additional information on the proposed activities was shared, with a particular focus on the methodology for installing and monitoring two piezometers, which are proposed to serve as groundwater monitoring 'control sites' for the project. Subsequently The proposed conditions for the project that relate to the activities in the TCDC area were also provided to the council for consideration.

14 CONSULTATION WITH THE WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL

OceanaGold recognises the importance of designing the Waihi North Project in a way that promotes the protection, preservation, conservation and enhancement of air, water, soil and ecosystems, as well as the natural character of Waihi, Wharekirauponga and the surrounding area. To achieve this it was paramount that Waikato Regional Council (WRC) was involved with the Waihi North Project development from the outset.

OceanaGold has a longstanding and established relationship with WRC's Principal Advisor for Consents, and since the announcement of the project, fortnightly informal meetings have been held providing updates on the status of project development and technical assessments. WRC's Principal Advisor for Consents has also acted as a conduit to other representatives at WRC on issues and initiatives that pertain to them. This has resulted in several site visits and meetings with relevant WRC technical experts on topics including water, biodiversity, air quality and wetlands.

In June 2022 an application for resource consent for the project was made to WRC under the RMA. That application was subject to a detailed evaluation by the council, and their technical experts, leading to requests for further information covering a wide range of topics. That application has not been notified and will be withdrawn when the substantive fast-track application is accepted as complete. The updated application made under the Fast-Track Approval Act is substantially the same project as that which was applied for under the RMA in 2022, and addresses the matters raised by the council in their section 92 RMA requests. Technical reports responding to most of those requests have already been provided to and reviewed by the council, and their experts.

Most recently, in Q1 2025, OceanaGold provided the updated proposed draft conditions for the project to the council for consideration.

15 CONSULTATION WITH WAKA KOTAHİ

OceanaGold has engaged with Waka Kotahi to understand the potential effects of Waihi North Project development traffic on the local roads and their points of access to the arterial state highway network. It is important to OceanaGold that Waka Kotahi has been directly involved in examining these effects and making recommendations on how best to cater for the change in road use.

Stantec were commissioned by OceanaGold to describe and assess the traffic and transportation effects with the Waihi North Project and were tasked with engaging with Waka Kotahi directly from the outset of the drafting of their assessment. Through this process Waka Kotahi has given guidance and specific feedback on best practice regarding roading upgrades and modifications to reflect the traffic use associated with the project, all of which have been considered in the Stantec report.

Of note, the requirement to upgrade the intersection of Stage Highway 25 and Willows Road was a topic of regular discussion and consultation with Waka Kotahi. The final design of the proposed upgrade of the intersection is subject to an independent design safety audit and post construction safety audit. These audits will be carried out by safety auditors appointed in consultation with Waka Kotahi.

16 CONSULTATION WITH TANGATA WHENUA

OceanaGold respects the traditions and cultures of local iwi and hapu and recognises the unique relationship that Māori have with their ancestral land, water, sites, wahi tapu and other taonga.

Since 2019, OceanaGold has sought on-going engagement with iwi to discuss their concerns and aspirations for the Waihi North Project.

Specifically, OceanaGold has engaged with the following iwi groups and representatives:

- **Ngaati Whanaunga**, Mike Baker and Honey Renata
- **Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki**, Jacqui Lindsay
- **Ngāti Hako**, Pauline Clarkin
- **Ngāti Hei**, Joe Davis
- **Ngāti Maru**, Craig Solomon, Eru Wilton, Nikky Fisher, and William Peters
- **Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki**, Baz Howie, and John Tamihere
- **Ngāti Pū**, Awhina Barrett, Donna McRae Searancke, Dorothy Dempsey, Georgia Bell, Graham King, Lena Fisher, and Ted Shaw,
- **Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu**, Daniel Braid and Norm Hill
- **Ngāti Tamaterā**, Antony Royal and Michelle Wilson
- **Ngāti Tara Tokanui / Ngāti Koi**, Amelia Williams and Tennille Hiramā
- **Waihi Community Marae**, Tim Ainsley and Tuihana Jack-Ainsley

OceanaGold has offered support and resourcing to each of the above iwi groups to prepare Cultural Values Assessments (CVA) and or Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) for the project. The completion of an iwi led CVA/CIA would assist the Company in ensuring that Māori cultural values and interests, and the potential impacts of the Waihi North Project on these, are appropriately and obviously accounted for in the Project.

There have been varying responses from iwi as to their interest in undertaking these assessments. A brief summary of these is outlined for each iwi below. In most cases, iwi have reserved their right to defer commenting or taking a position on the Project until they, or another iwi group they have recognised as having authority over specific matters, have completed a robust CIA.

The following sections describe the results of consultation with iwi to-date.

16.1 Ngaati Whanaunga

From the outset of engagement, Ngaati Whanaunga advised that they would reserve their position on the proposal until they had adequate time to complete a robust CIA. They also gave OceanaGold their support for the lodgment and notification of the 2022 Waihi North Project resource consent application under the traditional RMA so process. This is whilst they reviewed the relevant technical assessments associated with the project required to inform the impact assessment portion of their CIA.

In November 2022, Ngaati Whanaunga submitted a CIA to OceanaGold for consideration. The CIA describes Ngaati Whanaunga's history, cultural values, interests, and associations with the Project area; provides an assessment as to how the proposed activities may influence these values, and suggests recommendations for avoiding, remedying, or mitigating identified cultural effects.

At this time, Ngaati Whanaunga have chosen to keep the CIA confidential between themselves and OceanaGold. However, OceanaGold's interpretation of the key findings from the assessment is summarised together with iwi feedback more broadly in section 16.12 of this document.

16.2 Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki

OceanaGold does not have an existing relationship with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. In May 2022, following direction from a consenting authority, OceanaGold Waihi contacted Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki to provide them an overview of the proposed Project, and to seek clarity on what their interests are in the proposed project area, if any.

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki advised that the Waihi North Project is outside their immediate area of interest and that they would put support behind local iwi who are closer to the rohe. OceanaGold understands this position to remain unchanged.

16.3 Ngāti Hako

Ngāti Hako have a long-standing relationship with the Waihi Operation and are currently working with the Company on a number of initiatives that came out of mediation for the approvals of the Correnso consents. These include the Iwi Advisory Group, Cultural Awareness Training, and the Cultural Balance Plan.

Initially, Ngāti Hako advised that, given this long-term relationship with the Company, OceanaGold should already have an understanding of Ngāti Hako's interests and values, and declined to undertake a CIA.

Following further consultation, Ngāti Hako explained that they were now interested in undertaking a Cultural Impact Assessment for the Wharekirauponga Underground Mine element of the Waihi North Project, advising that they believe their position on the other, more Waihi centric elements, had already been identified through their previous Cultural Values Assessments. Ngāti Hako also gave their support for the lodgement and notification of the 2022 Waihi North Project resource consent application under the traditional RMA process, contingent on them being given the opportunity to undertake this assessment prior to any hearings.

Subsequently, in August 2022 Ngāti Hako submitted a proposal to OceanaGold, outlining their proposed CIA process, which was endorsed by the Company.

At the time of writing, all the technical assessments supporting the project's approval application, and draft consent conditions have been submitted to Ngāti Hako for review. They have indicated that their assessment is largely complete, but have however, requested additional time to consider the Fast-Track proposal and to integrate these considerations into their assessment before submitting it to OceanaGold for review. As a result, Ngāti Hako has not yet finalised their CIA, furthermore, OceanaGold is yet to receive a draft assessment.

OceanaGold continues to engage with Ngāti Hako and is committed to providing the necessary information, and resourcing, to support the completion of their assessment. In the meantime, a summary of the feedback received from iwi to-date, including from Ngāti Hako, is outlined in section 16.12 of this document.

16.4 Ngāti Hei

After initially advising that the Waihi North Project was south of their rohe, in December 2021 Ngāti Hei advised that they had recently re-reviewed the project information provided and advised that there is a Ngāti Hei interest in the Wharekirauponga area.

Ngāti Hei confirmed with OceanaGold that they would like to undertake a CVA for the project and provided a letter not objecting to the lodgement and notification of the 2022 Waihi North Project resource consent application under the traditional RMA process (contingent on them having the opportunity to complete this assessment).

There has been no further meaningful engagement since this time, although that OceanaGold has made regular contact and has offered support and resourcing to assist with the completion of the assessment.

OceanaGold recognises that Ngāti Hei is likely to have several other commitments and kaupapa which put pressure on capacity, and that the project may not necessarily be a priority for them. OceanaGold will continue to offer up opportunities for Ngāti Hei to engage further on the project.

OceanaGold notes, however, that the Ministry for the Environment in their assessment for the listing of the project¹, advises that Ngāti Hei's formal interests do not extend to the area of the Waihi North Project.

16.5 Ngāti Maru

From the beginning of their engagement with Ngāti Maru on the Waihi North Project, the company was informed that the proposed project falls within the rohe of Ngāti Maru's hapū, Ngāti Pū, as well as Ngāti Tamatera. Ngāti Maru deferred to these groups to identify any potential cultural impacts associated with the project, a position which was confirmed in writing to OceanaGold.

Despite this, Ngāti Maru expressed an interest in reviewing the effects assessments for the project to gain a clearer understanding of the proposal and its potential impacts and opportunities. Further to this, a number of site visits have been conducted by Ngāti Maru representatives in support of continuing to develop this understanding of OceanaGold's existing operation, and the proposed project.

Although Ngāti Maru continue to defer to Ngāti Pū and Ngāti Tamatera for a thorough assessment of the cultural impacts, they have made it clear that this does not constitute a proxy approval from Ngāti Maru for the project. They have also expressed their strong connection to Tīkapa Moana (the Hauraki Gulf) and emphasised the need to for the project to consider any potential adverse effects on the Ohinemuri River, which flows into the Waihou River near Paeroa and ultimately into the Gulf.

16.6 Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki

The relationship between Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki and OceanaGold is relatively new, and was developed, formalised and documented through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in mid-2021.

Following the formalisation of this relationship, Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki confirmed their interest in undertaking a CIA and gave support for the lodgement and notification of the 2022 WNP resource consent application made under the traditional RMA process (contingent on them being given the opportunity to undertake this assessment prior to any hearings).

Following this, OceanaGold shared the technical assessments for the project, together with the 2022 resource consent application and assessment of environmental effects, with Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki.

In December 2022, Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki informed OceanaGold that they wished to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding and will no longer be completing a CIA or engaging with OGNZL further. Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki advised that they would participate in the formal legal and approvals feedback processes available. Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki representatives cited concerns over (their perception of) OceanaGold's lack of openness and transparency regarding the project and its potential impacts, as the reason for this decision. While OceanaGold does not consider it has acted in a manner without transparency, it acknowledges the decision to end the Memorandum of

¹ FTA211 - Waihi North Project (WNP) - MfE assessment form Stage 1

https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-track-listed/Waihi-North-Project-WNP/211.04-FTA211-Waihi-North-Project-Sch-2A-MfE-assessment-form-Stage-1_Redacted.pdf

Understanding and has been respectful of the determination by Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki not to engage further.

OceanaGold notes, however, that the Ministry for the Environment in their assessment for the listing of the project², advises that Ngāti Porou ki Hauraki's formal interests do not extend to the area of the Waihi North Project.

16.7 Ngāti Pū

OceanaGold, and its predecessors, have had a long-term and enduring relationship with Ngāti Pū, beginning at the early stages of exploration in Wharekirauponga, and focused on ensuring that mining activity is conducted in a way that maintains the biodiversity value of the Wharekirauponga area/wāhi. This relationship has mainly been through Ngāti Pū's kaumatua Ted Shaw, who sadly passed away in late 2022.

Prior to Mr. Shaw's passing he provided a letter to OceanaGold giving support for the lodgement and notification of the 2022 Waihi North Project resource consent application under the traditional RMA process, contingent on them having the opportunity to complete their CIA prior to any hearings. This CIA was underway and OceanaGold had shared the Assessment of Environmental Effects and Supporting Technical Assessments with Mr. Shaw and his chosen consultant, and met with them a number of times to discuss these.

Since that time, Ngāti Pū have been in the process of transitioning a number of Mr. Shaw's relationships and responsibilities to other Ngāti Pū representatives. OceanaGold has committed to building these new relationships, and has now met with Dorothy Dempsey, Donna McRae Searancke, Lena Fisher Graham King and Awhina Barrett, as well as had several correspondences with Georgia Bell – all whom the Company has been advised will be integral to the completion of the Ngāti Pū CIA moving forward. Further to this, Ngāti Pū and OceanaGold have agreed to formalise their relationship through the signing of a Terms of Reference, which has been drafted with feedback received in January 2025 from Ngāti Pū.

Following Mr. Shaw's passing and the transition of the relationship, Ngāti Pū's selected consultant pursued other career opportunities and is now no longer available to assist with completing their assessment. As a result, the Ngāti Pū CIA work has transitioned to their Environmental Committee for completion. All relevant effects assessments and draft consent conditions for the project have been provided to this group to help inform the assessment. Additionally, OceanaGold has committed to offering further resources to support the assessment if necessary.

Despite these setbacks, the Ngāti Pū CIA continues to make progress, albeit slower than anticipated. It is worth noting, however, that there has been increased focus on completing the CIA in Q1 2025, with a recent site visit conducted and several hui held with the company on the topic.

OceanaGold will maintain engagement with Ngāti Pū and is committed to ensuring they have a comprehensive understanding of the proposed project and its anticipated effects. The company hopes to receive a completed assessment from Ngāti Pū in 2025 and will address any additional concerns not yet raised or resolved through other processes, at that time.

In the meantime, a summary of the feedback received from iwi to-date, including from Ngāti Pū, is outlined in section 16.12 of this document.

² FTA211 - Waihi North Project (WNP) - MfE assessment form Stage 1

https://environment.govt.nz/assets/what-government-is-doing/Fast-track-listed/Waihi-North-Project-WNP/211.04-FTA211-Waihi-North-Project-Sch-2A-MfE-assessment-form-Stage-1_Redacted.pdf

16.8 Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu

OceanaGold does not have an existing relationship with Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu. In May 2022, following advice from Waikato Regional Council and New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals, OceanaGold Waihi contacted Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu to provide them with an overview of the proposed Project and to seek clarity on what their interests are in the proposed project area, if any. Following this initial meeting a site visit was attended by a Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu representative.

During these interactions Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu advised that they have cultural rights and interests throughout the Hauraki and that, whilst they have a special interest within the area of Te Aroha, these rights and interests also extend to Waihi and further afield.

With this in mind, Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu confirmed with the Company that they would like to undertake a Cultural Values Assessment (CVA) for the proposed Waihi North Project. The CVA will outline the Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu interests and associations with the Hauraki area so that these can be fully understood by the Company. OceanaGold also understands that with respect to identifying the potential cultural impacts associated with the Project, Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu defer to other iwi with a closer connection to the rohe.

As of the time of writing, this CVA has not yet progressed. However, OceanaGold remains committed to understanding Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu's broader cultural interests and associations with the Hauraki area, should they still wish to collaborate with the company on documenting these for consideration.

16.9 Ngāti Tamaterā

At the outset of engagement on the project, Ngāti Tamaterā advised that they reserve their position on the Waihi North Project until they had adequate time to complete a CIA. Ngāti Tamaterā provided support for the lodgement and notification of the 2022 Waihi North Project resource consent application, while acknowledging that they were reviewing the relevant technical assessments associated with the project required to inform the impact assessment portion of the CIA.

Since that time, OceanaGold has shared the Waihi North Project technical assessments and draft conditions with Ngāti Tamaterā and has been available for regular meetings to discuss the findings of these assessments. OceanaGold also responded to a request for further information submitted by Ngāti Tamaterā seeking clarity on several matters related to the technical assessments.

In June 2023, Ngāti Tamaterā provided a CIA to OceanaGold. Since this time, the Ngāti Tamaterā Treaty Settlement Trust has chosen to make further updates to the report in light of the proposed Fast-Track application. OceanaGold has provided further information and resourcing in respect to this, and expects to receive an updated assessment in 2025.

As such, at this time, Ngāti Tamaterā have chosen to keep the initially delivered CIA confidential between themselves and OceanaGold. However, OceanaGold's interpretation of the key findings from that assessment is summarised, together with iwi feedback more broadly, in section 16.12 of this document

16.10 Ngāti Tara Tokanui / Ngāti Koi

In late 2021 OceanaGold and Ngāti Tara Tokanui / Ngāti Koi developed, formalised and documented their relationship. This has provided a solid platform for engagement on the proposed Project.

Subsequently, Ngāti Tara Tokanui advised that they would reserve their formal position on the proposal until they had sufficient time to complete a comprehensive CVA and CIA. They also confirmed their support for the lodgement and notification of the 2022 Waihi North Project resource consent application under the traditional RMA process, while they reviewed the relevant technical assessments needed to inform the impact assessment portion of their CIA.

In September 2022, Ngāti Tara Tokanui / Ngāti Koi submitted a CIA to OceanaGold for consideration. The assessments prepared by Ngāti Tokanui / Ngāti Koi outlines their history, cultural values, interests, and associations with the project area. It also provides an assessment of how the proposed activities may affect these values and offers recommendations for avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any identified cultural effects.

At this stage, Ngāti Tara Tokanui / Ngāti Koi have chosen to keep these assessment confidential between themselves and OceanaGold. However, OceanaGold's interpretation of the key findings from the assessment is summarised together with iwi feedback more broadly in section 16.12 of this document.

16.11 Waihi Community Marae

The Waihi Community Marae is not a traditional marae in the sense that it does not belong to any specific mana whenua group. It was established as a place where Māori living locally (often away from the area they affiliate to) could meet and connect with Māori culture, no matter where they are from.

Accordingly, OceanaGold engages with the Waihi Community Marae as recognition that they have modern cultural interests in Waihi.

16.12 Iwi Feedback

Iwi feedback has been sought via direct engagement with tangata whenua, as OceanaGold acknowledges and recognises that only iwi have the ability to determine how the Project affects them. From this engagement it is clear that for iwi the Waihi North Project does not take place in isolation – there is a legacy of past mining activity, which sets a context in which the proposed activities and their effects are viewed. OceanaGold is very much aware that it needs to be cognisant of this legacy.

OceanaGold is engaged with ongoing discussions with iwi to determine how the project may be used to achieve some degree of amelioration relating to these legacy issues and the current project. Nonetheless, for the purposes of this substantive application, it is important to make a distinction between feedback relating to the Waihi North Project, which need to be addressed and managed (including via conditions of consent); and other opportunities for cultural engagement, which may be addressed outside the statutory framework.

With this in mind, iwi feedback on the Waihi North Project has been centred around the following key areas:

- Relationships (governance, rangatiratanga);
- Tribal / whānau development;
- Cultural expression / practices (including community education and awareness raising); and
- Environmental Protection

16.12.1 Relationships

Iwi have emphasised the fundamental importance of relationships in addressing cultural matters. For the Waihi North Project, there are two key dimensions:

- The relationship between tangata whenua and the land; and
- The relationships between tangata whenua and other parties (public and private) who are working with the resources of that land.

Based on iwi feedback OceanaGold considers that the most effective way to foster and maintain good iwi relationships is to establish a dedicated forum for the Waihi North Project, with the purpose being to:

- Facilitate engagement and long-term working relationships between OceanaGold and iwi
- Identify and create opportunities for social, economic and environmental enhancement
- Provide a mechanism for iwi to have input into draft management plans (including closure plans)
- Provide an avenue to for the company to seek other cultural advice as may be required

Provision for this forum is included in the proposed conditions of consent for the project.

It is important to emphasise that the forum is not intended to be the sole means of engagement – rather, it is an opportunity to share ideas and help to arrive at solutions. OceanaGold remains committed to engagement with individual iwi as appropriate.

16.12.2 Tribal / Whānau Development

The proposed Waihi North Project is expected to create several hundred new jobs in the region and contribute billions of dollars in exports in the coming years. Iwi wish to ensure that their people benefit from the employment, education, and training opportunities the project may offer, and have emphasised the importance of managing those benefits equitably.

To this end, specific provisions are included in the proposed conditions of consent relating to the Social Impact Management Plan and Waihi Skill and Development Training Action Plan to ensure that tangata whenua concerns are duly taken into account.

Iwi have also expressed a desire for OceanaGold to support their broader goals and aspirations, such as contributing to iwi development, capacity building, and sponsorship opportunities. While these matters are not directly related to the Waihi North Project's effects, OceanaGold intends to collaborate with iwi outside the statutory framework in this regard. One example of this, is the company's recent commitment to sponsor the inaugural Hauraki Māori Business Awards, set to take place in October 2025.

16.12.3 Cultural Expression

Iwi have emphasised the importance of accommodating traditional practices in relation to the project, and making appropriate provision for cultural expression in order to avoid adverse effects. Specific requests have included:

- Karakia: To be conducted at appropriate project stages.
- Cultural Monitoring: Whilst a wide range of "technical" monitoring activities are already taking place or proposed for the Waihi North Project, iwi also wish to develop and apply monitoring

indicators drawn from their own mātauranga in order to monitor the well-being of the environment.

- Cultural Awareness Raising: Sharing kōrero (place names, stories, history), to instil an appreciation of the cultural landscape and the relationship of iwi with the environment.
- Protection of taonga: Iwi request that an accidental discovery protocol be applied when undertaking ground disturbance.

In response to this feedback, OceanaGold has committed to providing resources to support the development of cultural monitoring indicators, which are proposed to be included in a Cultural Practices Plan for the project. Additionally, OceanaGold will ensure that iwi are offered the opportunity to perform karakia at key project milestones, and that cultural awareness training is provided to all Waihi North Project staff and contractors. A standard accidental discovery protocol is also included in the proposed conditions of consent for the project.

16.12.4 Environmental Protection

Iwi have consistently emphasised that the Waihi North Project must allow for the exercise of kaitiakitanga. At its core, iwi involvement in the environmental management of the project is centred on their relationship with the land, and avoiding adverse environmental effects. A key mechanism proposed in response, is to enable iwi input into the suite of management plans that address the various environmental aspects of the project, with provisions for this incorporated into the proposed conditions of consent.

Iwi have also been engaged (to the extent that they desire) in the development of the Waihi North Biodiversity Project. The intention is that the Waihi North Biodiversity Project will be developed and implemented in partnership with tangata whenua, allowing integration of cultural perspectives and knowledge, as well as exercise of kaitiakitanga in both establishing the Waihi North Biodiversity Project's objectives, and in implementing the programme