Fast-track

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

MINUTE 6 OF THE EXPERT PANEL
Meeting regarding conditions of consent
Waihi North [FTAA-2504-1046]

20 October 2025

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[1] The purpose of this Minute is to signal the Panel's intent to meet with certain parties regarding proposed conditions of consent for the Waihi North project.

[2] The Panel wish to meet with relevant representatives from the following parties:

(a) OceanaGold New Zealand Limited (the Applicant)

(b) Department of Conservation (DOC)

(c) Hauraki District Council (HDC)

(d) Waikato Regional Council (WRC)

[3] The matters to be discussed relate to bond conditions. More detail is provided in **Appendix 1** to this Minute.

[4] The meeting will be held online via Microsoft Teams, with a tentative date of 23 or 24 of October 2025.

Sir William Young KNZM KC
Waihi North Expert Panel Chair

Appendix 1 – Matters to be discussed

[1] On the basis of the currently proposed conditions, the s 51 report from DOC and the s 53 comments received from HDC, along with the Applicant's responses, the following issues warrant discussion:

(a) Whether the Applicant wishes to maintain its objection to the bond conditions proposed by DOC for the Wharekirauponga access agreement. In proposing the conditions, DOC has involved s 78 and cl 10 of Schedule 11 of the Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 , which, on their face, require the panel to impose bond conditions in the terms stipulated.[1]

(b) Should there be a "first principles review" in respect of the HDC and WRC bonds and in particular, as to when they are called and residual risk assessment? Suggestions to this effect were made by the Chief Executive of HDC in his letter that formed part of the HDC comments under s 53 and by Bentley & Co in its report which also formed part of the same comments. As to this, it is not clear what is meant by the reference to the bonds being called at the same time.

(c) As to the allowances in the rehabilitation bond for the costs of Industrial and Special Risk Insurance in the sum of $17 million (2025 dollars) and public liability insurance to the sum of $7 million (2025 dollars). This was a point raised by Bentley & Co. These figures have been derived from the existing conditions. However there may be a question as to whether those figures are appropriate in relation to the project.

(d) The need for the Martha Trust to accept its extended role in relation to the project (including having its trust deed amended to permit it to do so). This point was raised by Bentley & Co. The Applicant's response

[1] A similar bond condition has been proposed by DOC in relation to the Favona access agreement but was not objected to by the Applicant.

indicates that arrangements are underway for this to be sorted out.

(e) Whether the conditions adequately protect HDC in relation to costs. This was raised by Bentley & Co., and is addressed in the currently proposed conditions, C81 and C93. It would be helpful to know what, if any, additional elaboration is sought by HDC.