

Formal Consultation Letters

18 February 2025

Penny Nelson
Director-General
Department of Conservation
c/o Fast-track Applications

By email: susmith@doc.govt.nz

Dear Penny

RE: OCEANAGOLD - WAIHI NORTH PROJECT – SUBSTANTIVE APPLICATION UNDER SCHEDULE 2 OF THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024

1. We write following our most recent discussions last week (Kerry Watson, Head of Closure Planning & NZ External Affairs, OceanaGold and Avi Holzapfel, Operations Manager, Hauraki District (Thames), Department of Conservation) to confirm that Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OceanaGold**”) will be applying for all approvals necessary under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”) for the construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of the Waihi North project. The Waihi North project is listed in Schedule 2 of the FTAA, and it is intended that an application for the project will be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority in early March 2025.
2. The application will seek approval for mining and mining related activities within the Waihi and Wharekirauponga areas, including (but not restricted to):
 - Mineral resource investigation and exploration progression
 - The construction, operation, and maintenance of an underground mine (the Wharekirauponga Underground Mine)
 - The construction, operation, and maintenance of an open pit mine (the Gladstone Open Pit)
 - Associated infrastructure including surface facilities activities, rock stack and stockpile provisions, upgrades to existing processing facilities, and tailings storage facilities
 - Remediation and closure activities.
3. Of relevance to the Department of Conservation, the approvals being applied for will include approvals that outside of the FTAA process would typically be required under:
 - The Freshwater Fisheries Regulations 1983 for diversion activities
 - The Wildlife Act 1953 for monitoring, handling, salvage, and relocation activities
 - The Conservation Act 1987 for pest control, monitoring, planting, and structure occupation activities on public conservation land
 - The Crown Minerals Act 1991 for surface access to Crown land (public conservation land) for mining-related activities.
4. Throughout the preparation of the Waihi North project, OceanaGold has engaged a wide selection of domestic and international technical experts to assist with the design of the project and the undertaking of assessments of actual and potential environmental effects

associated with the project. As a result of the inputs provided by these technical experts the Waihi North project will utilise world class mining methodologies, environmental monitoring methods, and operational controls, management, and reporting measures. Furthermore, OceanaGold will continue to actively engage with relevant administering authorities, government agencies, environmental groups, stakeholders, and members of the community as the project progresses. These commitments will be included in the proposed consent conditions provided as part of the FTAA application.

5. In terms of prior consultation with your department, in your capacity as one of the relevant administering agencies of any fast-track approvals process (section 11 (1) (e) FTAA), there has already been substantial engagement on the project to date through the department's regional and Permissions teams. However, if you or the department have any questions or matters you would like to discuss associated with the application for the Waihi North project under the FTAA, please let us know. We have included, with this letter, our suggestion for a pre-lodgement briefing in Wellington if that would be of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Alison Paul
SVP Legal & Public Affairs
OCEANA GOLD (NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED

CC: Avi Holzapfel, DOC Operations Manager, Hauraki District (Thames)
 Rebecca Beaumont, DOC Permissions Delivery Manager, Kaitūtohu Policy and Regulatory Services

18 February 2025

Carolyn Tremain
Chief Executive,
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

By email: carolyn.tremain@mbie.govt.nz

Dear Carolyn,

RE: OCEANAGOLD - WAIHI NORTH PROJECT – SUBSTANTIVE APPLICATION UNDER SCHEDULE 2 OF THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024

1. We write to confirm that Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OceanaGold**”) will be applying for all approvals necessary under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”) for the construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of the Waihi North project. The Waihi North project is listed in Schedule 2 of the FTAA, and it is intended that an application for the project will be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority in early March 2025.
2. The application will seek approval for mining and mining related activities within the Waihi and Wharekirauponga areas, including (but not restricted to):
 - Mineral resource investigation and exploration progression
 - The construction, operation, and maintenance of an underground mine (the Wharekirauponga Underground Mine)
 - The construction, operation, and maintenance of an open pit mine (the Gladstone Open Pit)
 - Associated infrastructure including surface facilities activities, rock stack and stockpile provisions, upgrades to existing processing facilities, and tailings storage facilities
 - Remediation and closure activities.
3. Of relevance to the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (“**MBIE**”), the approvals being applied for will include approvals that outside of the FTAA process would typically be required under s61 (1AA) of the Crown Minerals Act 1991 for surface access to Crown land (public conservation land) for mining-related activities under a Tier 1 permit (access arrangements).
4. Throughout the preparation of the Waihi North project, OceanaGold has engaged a wide selection of domestic and international technical experts to assist with the design of the project and the undertaking of assessments of actual and potential environmental effects associated with the project. As a result of the inputs provided by these technical experts the Waihi North project will utilise world class mining methodologies, environmental monitoring methods, and operational controls, management, and reporting measures. Furthermore, OceanaGold will continue to actively engage with relevant administering authorities, government agencies, environmental groups, stakeholders, and members of the community

as the project progresses. These commitments will be included in the proposed consent conditions provided as part of the FTAA application.

5. In terms of prior consultation with your Ministry, in your capacity as one of the relevant administering agencies of any fast-track approvals process (section 11 (1) (e) FTAA), there has already been periodic engagement on the project to date through the various NZ Petroleum & Minerals regulatory teams, including the Annual Review Meeting process where the upcoming application was discussed. However, if you or the Ministry have any questions or matters you would like to discuss associated with the application for the Waihi North project under the FTAA, please let us know. We have included, with this letter, our suggestion for a pre-lodgement briefing in Wellington if that would be of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Alison Paul
SVP Legal & Public Affairs
OCEANA GOLD (NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED

CC: Bruce Parkes, General Manager, Resources Building, Resources & Markets Group, MBIE
John Buick-Constable, National Manager Petroleum and Minerals, NZPM

18 February 2025

James Palmer
Secretary for the Environment and Chief Executive
Ministry for the Environment
And to: Fast-track Team

By email: James.Palmer@mfe.govt.nz and contact@fasttrack.govt.nz

Dear James

RE: OCEANAGOLD - WAIHI NORTH PROJECT – SUBSTANTIVE APPLICATION UNDER SCHEDULE 2 OF THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024

1. We write to advise that Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OceanaGold**”) intends to apply imminently for all approvals necessary under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”) for the construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of the Waihi North project. The Waihi North project is listed in Schedule 2 of the FTAA, and it is intended that an application for the project will be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority in early March 2025.
2. The application will seek approval for mining and mining related activities within the Waihi and Wharekirauponga areas, including (but not restricted to):
 - Mineral resource investigation and exploration progression
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 - The construction, operation, and maintenance of an open pit mine (the Gladstone Open Pit)
 - Associated infrastructure including surface facilities activities, rock stack and stockpile provisions, upgrades to existing processing facilities, and tailings storage facilities
 - Remediation and closure activities.
3. Of relevance to the Ministry for the Environment (“**MfE**”), the approvals being applied for will include approvals that outside of the FTAA process would typically be required under the Resource Management Act 1991 (“**RMA**”).
4. Throughout the preparation of the Waihi North project, OceanaGold has engaged a wide selection of domestic and international technical experts to assist with the design of the project and the undertaking of assessments of actual and potential environmental effects associated with the project. As a result of the inputs provided by these technical experts the Waihi North project will utilise world class mining methodologies, environmental monitoring methods, and operational controls, management, and reporting measures. Furthermore, OceanaGold will continue to actively engage with relevant administering authorities, government agencies, environmental groups, stakeholders, and members of the community as the project progresses. These commitments will be included in the proposed consent conditions provided as part of the FTAA application.

5. In terms of prior consultation under the RMA, there has already been substantial engagement on the project to date through the Waikato Regional Council and the Hauraki District Council. The relevant summary of the project, detailing such matters, was also provided with our 3rd April 2024 application to MfE for listing in Schedule 2 of the FTAA. However, if in your capacity as one of the relevant administering agencies pursuant to section 11 (1) (e) FTAA, you or the Ministry have any questions or matters you would like to discuss associated with the application for the Waihi North project under the FTAA, please let us know.
6. We have included, with this letter, our suggestion for a pre-lodgement briefing in Wellington if that would be of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Alison Paul
SVP Legal & Public Affairs
OCEANA GOLD (NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED

18 February 2025

Leauanae Laulu Mac Leuanae
Secretary for Culture and Heritage and Chief Executive
Ministry for Culture and Heritage
By email: Bridie.Cooper@mch.govt.nz

And to:

Andrew Coleman
Manahautū/Chief Executive
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
By email: acoleman@heritage.org.nz

Dear Sirs

RE: OCEANAGOLD - WAIHI NORTH PROJECT – SUBSTANTIVE APPLICATION UNDER SCHEDULE 2 OF THE FAST-TRACK APPROVALS ACT 2024

1. Following our meeting of 23rd January 2025 with the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga team, we write to confirm that Oceana Gold (New Zealand) Limited (“**OceanaGold**”) intends to apply imminently for all approvals necessary under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (“**FTAA**”) for the construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of the Waihi North project. The Waihi North project is listed in Schedule 2 of the FTAA, and it is intended that an application for the project will be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority in early March 2025.
2. The application will seek approval for mining and mining related activities within the Waihi and Wharekirauponga areas, including (but not restricted to):
 - Mineral resource investigation and exploration progression
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 - The construction, operation, and maintenance of an open pit mine (the Gladstone Open Pit)
 - Associated infrastructure including surface facilities activities, rock stack and stockpile provisions, upgrades to existing processing facilities, and tailings storage facilities
 - Remediation and closure activities.
3. Of relevance to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, the approvals being applied for will include approvals that outside of the FTAA process would typically be required under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (the ‘**Act**’) for works that have the potential to modify or remove archaeological remains and/or features.

4. Throughout the preparation of the Waihi North project, OceanaGold has engaged a wide selection of domestic and international technical experts to assist with the design of the project and the undertaking of assessments of actual and potential environmental effects associated with the project. As a result of the inputs provided by these technical experts the Waihi North project will utilise world class mining methodologies, environmental monitoring methods, and operational controls, management, and reporting measures. Furthermore, OceanaGold will continue to actively engage with relevant administering authorities, government agencies, environmental groups, stakeholders, and members of the community as the project progresses. These commitments will be included in the proposed consent conditions provided as part of the FTAA application.
5. In terms of prior consultation, there has already been engagement on the project to date through the Mid-Northern Area Office of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. However, if in your capacity as administering agencies pursuant to section 11 (1) (e) FTAA, you or your agencies have any questions or matters you would like to discuss associated with the application for the Waihi North project under the FTAA, please let us know.
6. We have included, with this letter, our suggestion for a pre-lodgement briefing in Wellington if that would be of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Alison Paul
SVP Legal & Public Affairs
OCEANA GOLD (NEW ZEALAND) LIMITED

CC: Mary Kienholz, Kaiwhakahaera a-Takiwa / Area Manager Mid-Northern, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga