

# Correnso (CEPA) / Slevin Underground Project Area (SUPA) Community Meeting

Thursday 27 February 2020

The following is a record of the CEPA/SUPA community meeting held at 5pm on 27 February 2020. Where possible, we have tried to capture individual contributions at the meeting but these do not purport to be verbatim notes.

## Welcome

Tim Clarke welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that this is the second of two meetings being run today, 27 February 2020. This is the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting (for CEPA) and the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting (for SUPA).

It is a resource consent condition that we have this meeting to provide updates on the CEPA and SUPA underground projects, an opportunity to ask questions and to look at what's happening with the mining process and environmental effects.

As usual we are recording this meeting so that the recording is available to you if you would like to listen to the meeting or if somebody who is unable to come today wants to click on the link and be able to listen to what we talked about at the meeting and Louise is working hard to prepare an independent set of minutes of this and those will also be available to people. They are available on the website but if people would like to have a copy emailed to them they can and if people would like to receive a paper copy they can. Make sure you let Jeannine and Donna know if you want a copy emailed to you or a paper copy. (*Helga Schmidt and Eric Rhodes both requested a paper copy of the minutes.*)

Tim invited everyone present to introduce themselves and explain their relationship with the project. (See *attendance box at the end of these minutes.*)

As always, if there are questions can I ask you to say your name first, it really helps Lou and I keep track of who's saying what in the meeting. It means that we can make the minutes accurate and if there are live questions that we need to come back to, we know who asked the question.

Can I hand over to you Bernie?

## Correnso/SUPA

### Purpose of meeting

Under Condition 62 of the Correnso consents we are required to hold community meetings every six months. The consent states that the purpose of the meeting is to:

- a) Present information from the preceding six months on the following:
  - i. A description of the mining activities provided for under this consent that have been undertaken;
  - ii. A summary of relevant environmental results;
  - iii. Progress with the IRP property purchase programme;
  - iv. Progress on any matters raised at the preceding meeting;
- b) Receive feedback from the meeting attendees on the consent holder's activities and progress on the matters listed above.

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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

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Bernie said: See the slide above – I think we probably don't need to go through the purpose of the meeting because this will be the 17<sup>th</sup> time we've been through it. I think everybody understands why we're here. (*General agreement in the room.*)

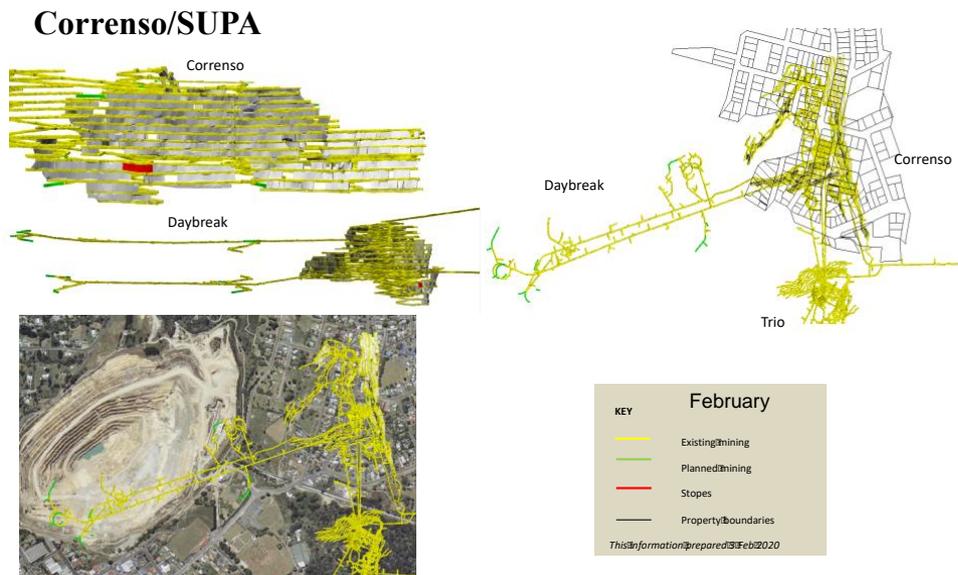
# Correnso/SUPA

## Outline

- ▶ PROJECT UPDATE
- ▶ ENVIRONMENT
- ▶ SOCIAL/COMMUNITY

## Project update

Bernie said: This (slide 3 above) is the agenda for the meeting today. I will give you an update and hand over to Russell to talk about environmental matters and then Kim will finish up with social/community discussion. I'll kick off with the project update.



Bernie said: There are a few maps on this first slide. The top one is a cross-sectional view and then the photograph is a plan view and the one off to the (right-hand) side is another plan view. The yellow is what has been mined already. If there is a line on the map it's what we call a tunnel and the red and the grey areas here in this cross-section (top left) are stopes, the bigger areas that we've already mined. The right-hand map is a cadastral map and shows development in relation to property boundaries.

These show a mixture of Correnso and SUPA areas. Correnso has got a number of different veins in it, but we collectively call that Correnso. We're winding down our activities in the Correnso mine, we've just about finished, in fact I think the last main blast was today in the Correnso area. We'll still be doing some blasting and production throughout the year but it's going to be in more narrow vein areas at the upper part of Correnso but the main blasting has just about come to an end.

Tim said: Erich, what was your comment?

Erich Schmidt said: No, it (the last main blast) was Trio.

Bernie said: Yes, you're right. We collectively call them Correnso.

# Correnso Moves to Narrow Vein Mining

- The techniques used in Narrow Vein Mining are similar to what we have traditionally done in Correnso, however, the tunnels are half the size, the cuts made by the drilling jumbos are smaller, and the stopes (the areas we blast and extract the ore from) are smaller too.
- Narrow vein mining allows us to chase the ore veins near the top of the Correnso ore body.
- Vibration will be more localised. Those directly above blasting will feel vibration at similar levels to a traditional Correnso blasts.
- Most activity will be below Kenny St and Gladstone Rd.
- Vibration consenting limits remain the same.
- AEP will be continued to be paid to qualifying residents.



Bernie said: We are moving towards narrow main mining. We have been doing work in the lower levels of Trio as Erich points out but not a lot of work there, but the main part of Correnso is finished. We've had the Louis vein and the Trio deep area to finish off. Our processing plant will stop work this weekend coming up, on Saturday or Sunday we'll be finished. We are out of ore and it won't start up again until the last quarter of this year because we don't have enough ore to treat. There is going to be a gap in our gold production. In the meantime we will continue with what we call narrow vein mining. Basically that's using small equipment and working on the narrow veins. It's not as productive, we don't mine as many tonnes but we will still be blasting and that narrow vein mining will generally be around the top of the Correnso ore body, so we're getting closer and closer to the surface. The vibration events from the blasting will be more localised but residents will still be able to hear and feel the blasts, like a traditional Correnso blast. That will continue until the end of the year but there won't be so many of them and the vibration effect will be more localised because of those two reasons. Most of that will be located below Kenny and Gladstone Roads. The conditions remain the same, the blast vibration conditions we have to meet are the same as in the resource consent currently and we'll continue to make the amenity effects payments (AEP).

Dee said: The closest to the top of the surface, what metreage are we looking at?

Bernie said: We've got a limit below the surface that we can't go above, it's 130m.

## Correnso/SUPA

### Vibration

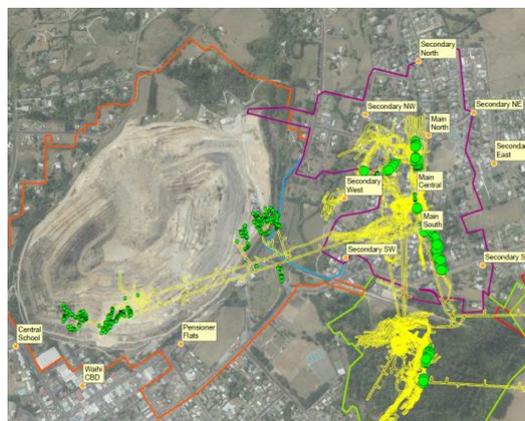
#### Correnso/SUPA

Six-months to date performance

- Development blasting (243 events)
  - Highest average 0.59 mm/s (consent limit 2 mm/s)
  - 95 percentile 0.75 mm/s (consent limit 5 mm/s)
- Production blasting (121 events)
  - Highest average 1.94 mm/s (consent limit 3 mm/s)
  - 95 percentile 3.85 mm/s (consent limit 5 mm/s)

Blasts >5mm/s:

- 27 Sep 2019 (7.9mm/s)
- 12 Dec 2019 (6.0mm/s)
- 16 Jan 2020 (5.4mm/s)
- 25 Jan 2020 (8.5mm/s)
- 10 Feb 2020 (5.8mm/s)



## Environmental effects

Russell said: This (*vibration*) slide is reasonably familiar. I didn't bother modifying it to take out the Project Martha blasts so you have the convenience of seeing both. Most of our development activity you can see

here, these smaller dots are the development blasts for Project Martha. The larger dots you can see over on the other side are the production blasting in Correnso. You can see how they're localised and there's a few production blasts in Trio as well on Union Hill.

This data (*the narration on the left-hand side of the slide above*) is focused on Correnso and SUPA (*the Project Martha and Trio data is not shown here*) as this meeting is for Correnso. There have been 243 development blast events in last six months so even though we're doing production blasting we still have to drive our tunnels to open up the accesses to do the production blasting. We're still well within compliance. The highest average for any monitor is .59 with a limit of 2, the 95 percentile which is 95% blasts are under .75mm/second and our consent limit for that is 5mm. That's an easy 95 percentile to reach because it's actually quite hard to trigger the monitors at times with a development blast. But, it's there as a backstop.

Production blasting is probably the one that everybody feels and talks about. There's been 121 events in the last six months. The highest average is 1.94 which happens to be at Main Central (*monitor*) which is logical if you think about it, it's in the middle so everything gets a piece of it. Again a limit of 3, and the 95 percentile is 3.85. That has been fluctuating a little bit recently but I think the highest I've seen it is about 4.1 and the lowest about 3.6 so that's pretty average at the moment.

We acknowledge that there has been, over the last six months, a number of blasts that have been worse than we would like. These are the blasts that are over 5 and they've been from a variety of causes. Some of them are human error and some of them are to do with anomalies in the geology. But, I guess that's what the 95 percentile is all about, it is an acknowledgement that some blasts, despite all of our efforts, will go rogue and that's also why we have that 5mm/second, it gives us a huge safety factor. International studies talk about minor property damage not occurring until levels reach 20mm to 25mm/second. 5mm/second is two orders of magnitude less than that. The best way to look at it is that 5 is half the energy of 10, which is half the energy of 20. So, you've got four times as much energy.

Brian said: I can see Central School, I'm trying to figure out where the rugby ground and Morgan Park are.

Russell (*pointed them out on the map and*) said: So, we talked before about the Rex blasting that's getting down here towards the rugby ground.

Ross said: That big row of green blobs would be Gladstone Road or somewhere around about there?

Russell said: Yes.

Bernie said: How many blast monitors will we end up with in our network now Russell?

Russell said: All up there were 23 at one stage. There were five in Trio and shortly I will be able to remove those. We've got 10 above Correnso and we've got some on the North Wall plus the new ones that have just gone in. About 18 I think.

Tim said: Russell thank you, the five dates that you've noted on the slide, were you saying that those exceedances were for a combination of reasons? Different things happened on different days?

Russell said: Yes.

Erich Schmidt said: What happened on 25 January?

Russell said: 25 January, the 8.5?

Bernie said: As Russell explained, some of these blasts are the result of unforeseen geology and structures that might propagate more vibration than we think. Some of them are a result of two blast-holes detonating at the same time because they joined up because of voids in the ground, and some are the result of human error and that does happen from time to time, and that one (*the 8.5*) was a result of human error as the blast was designed with too high an explosive charge.

Erich Schmidt said: 27 September was, instead of 1.5 tonnes, 4.5 tonnes of explosive.

Russell said: The tonnage of explosive isn't exactly relevant because you can have a large blast over a prolonged period of time. The tonnage of blast is the total that comes from the entire explosion. The key factor normally is the instantaneous charge which is normally in kilograms.

Erich Schmidt said: Yes it was the tonnage. It's in writing in the Eastender.

Eric Rhodes said: When I worked in quarries and we let off a blast on the face of the quarry, sometimes the houses fairly close couldn't even feel it but the houses further away would feel it. It depends on your geology.

Bernie said: It can be the geology. Some structures propagate the vibration more than others and you don't always know that they are there, so there is a little bit of that in some of these.

Russell said: Quarry blasts also have significant over-pressure and often properties close by might be slightly downhill from them and the blast shockwave can go straight over the top of the properties. So, one quite nearby might not be affected while the one on the other side of the gully might get the full effect.

Glenis said: You were talking about monitors before and putting in additional ones. Do you ever put them into the houses?

Russell said: No.

Glenis said: Why is that?

Russell said: The standards (*compliance measure*) for vibration monitoring are to put the monitor on a concrete block in natural ground, and probably one of the hardest things to do in Waihi is to find natural ground because it's been so modified. I do at times put a monitor inside a person's house. If I do that I will nearly always put a vibration monitor outside in the ground as well and I'll do a comparison between the two. That has nothing to do with vibration compliance, it is more to do with how the house behaves in relation to the ground around it. We do find that, for example, a concrete slab dwelling will behave differently to a timber pile and to a concrete pile. So, properties all behave differently depending on the vibration and I guess the mine can't be held completely liable for all vibrations (*behaviour*) ... we are responsible for the vibrations in the ground and the building code is to a certain extent responsible for the stability of houses.

Tim said: But you do that sometimes to determine what's happening and what's causing the effect that somebody might be having inside their home?

Russell said: Yes, it's about understanding how people are affected.

Glenis said: Does it show a difference between the vibration effect inside the house as opposed to outside?

Russell said: Sometimes it does, sometimes it's higher and sometimes it's lower. It's actually really interesting because ... it was described by a consultant that putting a concrete block on a piece of land, or soil, is like putting a marble on a waterbed. When the ground moves the marble moves with it (*as does the concrete block under the monitor*). But if you have a concrete slab building and put a monitor on top of the concrete slab, the monitor will virtually stay still (*as opposed to the ground which is relatively plastic*), the design of the concrete block has to be specific so that the monitor accurately records vibrations in the ground. I originally installed a monitor in the core-shed and I was told I couldn't do that, I had to move it a few metres away from the core-shed for exactly that reason, because the core-shed is one massive concrete slab and the monitor wouldn't "feel" a thing because it took so much energy to make it move.

Tim said: Thanks Russell. What happens with exceedances at that level? Do AEP payments apply?

Bernie said: Yes, it can be quite an expensive exercise Tim and it's a massive disincentive for us to have those high readings because it gets very costly. Erich, I think you mentioned the 27 September blast. The payments for that, I think, we worked out were \$50,000.

Russell said: Yes it was heading to \$50,000.

Bernie said: So, we are not making any money out of gold mining at that rate.

Russell said: For those of you who want to understand how the AEP works, the minimum payments have to be above 1.5mm/second. When we get two events in one month as happened in January, if you can imagine a large blast sends a vibration across quite a large area of town. So, there were a lot of people on the periphery of town that have received 1.5mm/second twice in the same month, so, all of a sudden, a whole lot of people out here are getting the minimum AEP payment for the period. If we hadn't had one of those and we just had one moderate blast every month these people would not have received a payment. So, those sorts of things are what we think carefully about. Not that we want to do one a month. It's pretty disheartening as well. I work closely with the engineers and they really hate to see this happen.

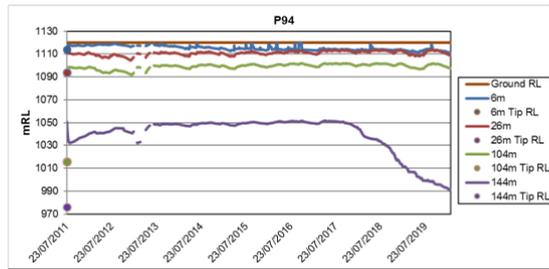
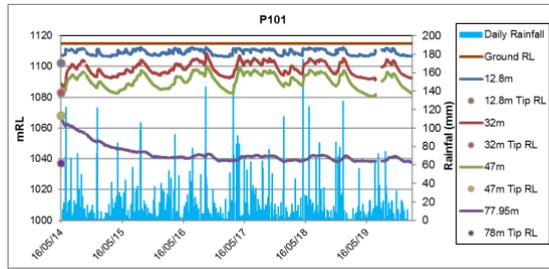
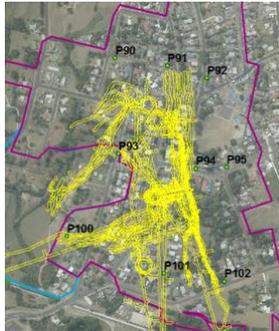
Tim said: Great, any other questions about vibration?

# Correnso/SUPA

## Dewatering

- Established piezometers (e.g. P101)
- Shallow monitors respond quickly to rain
  - Deep monitors slow response

Piezo P94 (est. 2011) deeper Andesite piezometer in touch with upper mining levels (shallower piezo levels unaffected)



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OCEANA GOLD

## Dewatering

Russell said: If you look closely you'll see the graph of P101 (*top of the slide above*) and you will see that the line shows a response in the surface area of a drought last year and we're having another one this year. This is affecting the shallow aquifers, it's not affecting the deep aquifer that we're working in. For me, it's distressing that we've got so little grass because I'm actually a soil conservator by trade and I love green grass, but it's also heartening to see the areas we are working with are not affecting the upper levels. The one that's behaving oddly is P94 which, if you can't read it, is pretty much near the centre of the Correnso area. We believe this is being affected by the narrow vein mining which is actually getting quite close to this piezometer tip (*we've actually pretty much dried it out*). The good thing is the upper levels aren't being affected.

Brian said: Russell, in layman's terms can you tell me the levels you're working at, you've got two levels you are working to, and how they relate that to the depth of the aquifers? Where are they in comparison to where you're working?

Russell said: It's hard to be specific where the levels are because the level of aquifers can change. Think of them like infilled riverbeds. You have the deep structure where we're working and then there's these bands, aquicludes, clay barriers, where the upper water tables work above, but they're not flat, they're shaped.

Brian said: You dewater the lower levels to get down to where you are working in Correnso, is that right?

Russell said: We dewater the lower one, yes.

Brian said: So, that's above where you're working?

Russell (*pointed to the slide and*) said: This is the uppermost level of where we're working and it is below that so you're looking at 130m to 140m below ground. The cap, the andesite layer, is another 30m above it.

Brian said: Yes, that's good. Obviously with a water shortage there's people sitting there saying, "They're taking water out of the aquifers and that's making us short".

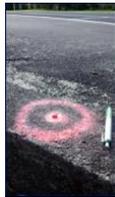
Russell said: No, we've got really good data that says that all the water that people need around here is staying here (*above the cap*). You don't really want that water down there (*below the cap*) anyway, it's a bit hard (*too full of minerals*).

Tim said: Cool, any other questions about the dewatering?

## Correnso/SUPA

### Settlement

- Twelfth survey of markers in Nov 2019. No settlement issues for Correnso.
- No significant change to minor reportable tilt, 1:842 (cf. 1:851 May2018 & 1:878 May2019), detected around settled area in Slevin Park (see arrow).



### Settlement

Russell said: Of course we have another layer of settlement surveys every six months. Again, there's been no issues, no reportable tilt, there's no reportable settlement issues. The tilt is the differential settlement where one spot lowers more than another, if that happened then that is what would start to break things. The only movement that we report is the one in the middle of Slevin Park which is inside that fenced area. We're still not 100% sure what the cause of that settlement in Slevin Park is. There are some old workings nearby, there's also a lot of council infrastructure under there and we're not too sure exactly what's going on there. It's not a significant drop, we are sure there's no safety issue. Settlement has stabilised in the last two years. In that one area it's a difference of about 4mm over a distance of 40m to 50m. The southern end is probably sitting still and the other one has dropped a little bit, but it's 4mm (*difference over 50m*) in an area that has been acknowledged as a hazard zone, that's why houses were removed (2003).

Brian said: And that's 4mm over what period of time? Over a year? Over three months?

Russell said: It's gone up and down, if you look at the actual data, in the last six months it's gone down 4mm.

Tim said: And will it go up again when the rain comes back?

Russell said: Possibly.

Ross said: Where is Slevin Park? (I've only been around here 40 years).

Russell said: Slevin Street ... so you've got Roycroft, Dobson.

Ross said: Oh it's over behind us, so that's a park?

Russell said: It's an area that's had the houses removed. We mow it and make pathways through it and trim the trees and people seem to like walking through it. There are old workings under there in various parts of that park.

Glenis said: Will they ever develop that as a park?

Russell said: There's been various considerations over the years of what the end use of it could be. There are places where you could consider putting houses that aren't directly over any old workings and then you could have the rest of the land as gardens and things like that but I think it's too difficult, it's too uncertain.

David said: The water drain that runs down through the park and comes out over the little waterfall, it's actually completely dried out this year, which is the first time we've seen it do that since we've been living in town over 12 years.

Tim said: And is it true, what I've been reading in the newspaper, that there's been such a water shortage it's been necessary to have water deliveries?

Donna said: No, the water got turned off one day. There was a burst pipe.

Bernie said: It was only for a half day or so.

Russell said: This community's had a bit of a tough time in the last few months because there's been a couple of leaks, one out towards Waikino that took a long time to detect and that caused a lot of consternation with council because they have access to different water sources and they want to use the best water source for the community, but when they have leaks then they have to start doing things like taking it from the river and treating it which starts to give people muddy tasting water and things like that.

Erich Schmidt said: The comment in Waihi is, "Lack of maintenance". That is the comment everywhere.

Tim said: A council thing?

Erich Schmidt said: Yes.

Brian said: It goes a bit deeper than that, but that's part of the reason, yes.

Tim said: I know that Leigh Robcke was here at the meeting at 3 o'clock and couldn't stay but if there are any questions or things that you want us to raise with him we could send them through to him. Do you want to response to that? And Jeannine you were saying it's an issue for farmers too?

Jeannine said: Yes, no grass.

## 6 Monthly Complaints Report

The 6 monthly complaints report was submitted to Hauraki District Council and the Waikato Regional Council in late January. This covered the reporting period of July – December 2019.

108 complaints and 6 concerns were received during the reporting period. A breakdown of these were;

- Vibration – 32 complaints (August – December)
- Felt & Heard – 66 complaints (July – December)
- Property – 4 complaints (July – November)
- Noise – 1 (August)
- Noise from Blasting – 4 complaints (July – December)
- Working Hours – 1 – (November)

It should be noted that of the 108 complaints received, 75 came from 4 locations

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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

OCEANA GOLD

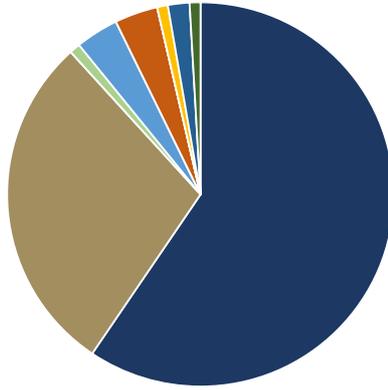
### Social / community

Kim said: As some of you are probably aware, it's part of our consent requirements that we have to provide Hauraki District Council with a report every six months detailing the complaints on the Correnso project. So, we thought today it might be quite useful ... actually I might just get to the next slide as we've got everything on there.

## Complaints July – December 2019

108 complaints and 6 concerns were received during the reporting period, including:

- Felt & Heard – 66 complaints
- Vibration – 32 complaints
- Property – 4 complaints
- Noise from Blasting – 4 complaints
- Light Pollution - 2
- Noise – 1
- Working Hours – 1
- Communication – 1



- Felt & Heard
- Vibration
- Dust/Air Quality
- Noise
- Property
- AEP
- Noise from Blasting
- Employee Behaviour
- Water Quality
- Communication
- Light Pollution
- Working Hours

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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

OCEANA GOLD

Kim said: For the visual amongst us we've got a visual there with the actual wording beside it as well. So, in our latest report to council we had a total of 108 complaints in that six-month period and six concerns. So I think if my arithmetic is still working properly that's about 18 complaints a month and roughly four a week on average. Then we've got the breakdown there with the nature of those complaints. I guess not surprisingly, considering the nature of the activities and the blasting, those complaints mainly relate to the vibration being felt and heard and noise from blasting as well, and then smaller numbers as we go down the list there. I think it's useful to be transparent and show that we do have a process for receiving those complaints and reporting on them, but perhaps more importantly to just run through what we do when we receive complaints even when we're still compliant with our consent conditions. We do go through an internal process, Donna sends them through every morning, they are looked at in our management meeting and then that's all built into the planning processes for our blasting so if we're seeing a pattern somewhere when we previously blasted we'll be looking at that as well when we're planning our blast.

Tim said: Fantastic, I haven't seen that graphic before, that's quite useful isn't it just to be able to see what's coming in? And so you do that to complaints even if they aren't exceedances? If somebody contacts the company and says, "I'm not happy", you record it?

Kim said: Yes, it's still recorded as a complaint. I think it's in everyone's interests to actually understand.

Tim said: And that working hours complaint wasn't from one of the staff who just wanted to finish at 5pm?

Erich Schmidt said: What is the working hours complaint?

*Post-meeting answer: A resident wanted an explanation as to why the blast was delayed on 11 November 2019.*

Vivienne said: And the light pollution – what's that?

*Post-meeting answer: Moore Street gate, new security lights installed annoying two neighbours so were turned down to face the ground and away from resident.*

Glenis said: You call them complaints, are they necessarily all complaints or are they feedback? Because we get feedback and people will often say, "I'm not complaining, I'm giving feedback". So I'm just wondering what's a complaint and what's feedback?

Donna said: When people ring generally they quite clearly let you know that it is a complaint and they want it logged. If it's just a concern its logged as a concern.

Brian said: Would that be a different graph?

Donna said: Yes, well there were only six.

Tim said: Six in six months. And do you ask them specifically?

Donna said: Sometimes, if they're not clear.

Kim said: Once again I think that's a transparency issue. I think as you were saying some organisations might try and fudge those a bit and say they weren't really complaints but if somebody believes it's a complaint ...

Brian said: Sorry, I'm just saying that the name "complaints" stops people from ringing, "I'm not complaining, I'm just ringing to pass on information" ...

Tim said: Right, so Kim was just saying the reverse, that actually it can look like you're fudging a complaint by calling it a concern or something else. So are there some thoughts about how that should be done?

Brian said: Well what do you call your phone line?

Donna said: Community engagement line.

Brian said: It was changed from a complaints line to a community engagement line. I see it, I ring it but it's to give you guys information to hopefully help you to gather information from this point, that point and the other point but if I ring up three times and it's a complaint I'm going to stop complaining because I don't want to be a complainer. I don't complain to restaurants, I give them feedback, positive or negative. I try not to complain, I try to give them something positive to come out of it but I don't like to be called a complainer.

Kim said: Maybe that's the subtle difference, we're not calling the person a complainer but I think we have to have those options for people. I hear what you're saying that you don't want to be defined as a complainer but equally some people strongly feel that this is a complaint and don't try and call it something else.

Glenis said: So that graph there (*slide above*) is complaints?

Kim said: Yes.

Tim said: Good conversation thank you. Erich?

Erich Schmidt said: Every month a minimum of five ... no sorry, this month there's only three late blasts.

Tim said: Which category do they fit in under, the late blasts?

Donna said: They don't unless someone rings up and says. For instance, someone will ring up and say, "I heard that blast and it was late", but the real concern is they felt and heard it.

Tim said: So Erich are you saying that when you say "late" it's outside of the blast window?

Erich Schmidt said: Yes. And every month a minimum of five late blasts and they are all reported to the council.

Bernie said: Can I just clarify something there Erich? Our best endeavours are to blast within that blast window. And that's what the consent condition obliges us to do. It's not a strict blast window in that we're not obliged to blast every time in that one hour period at lunchtime. So, occasionally it might be running late for whatever reason and there might be an occasional late blast but we're always using our best endeavours to blast within that blast window and that is what our consent condition allows us to do.

Erich Schmidt said: I get this every time, every time, only it doesn't change. Why you blast late? Don't blast.

Tim said: One of the conversations I can recall being had in this meeting when the subject was raised is that "best endeavours" means getting it done within the window *if they can*, that if there's a delay then the company can't leave the charge in the ground ...

Erich Schmidt said: They can.

Tim said: ... because it's unsafe to do so. Erich you disagree with that?

Bernie said: On some occasions it's unsafe and on other occasions we often do make decisions to leave it until the next day, so it really depends on the status of that blast and where we're at. Sometimes we do that Erich, we leave it until the next day, other times we say, "No, we've got to blast it" and it might be a bit late.

Tim said: So Erich, I just want to take this from another angle now because it really interests me. So, how much of an issue is it if it's outside, if it's in the "best endeavours" window?

Erich Schmidt said: It's against the condition. The consent condition states in the meal break between 1pm and 2pm and there are exceptions when there is an emergency in the mine, I don't mind blast five times, I don't mind only not on a regular basis. Most of the time it's on the weekend.

Bernie said: Can I just say something else about that Erich? The meeting we had earlier in the day you didn't attend, but it was about the Martha. The underground blast window in Project Martha was modified to be 1.30pm to 2.30pm.

Erich Schmidt said: I know.

Bernie said: And the reason we've done that is because that aligns better, it's a better time of the day for us to be doing that blasting. So, as a consequence of that, what you should find is that the number of late blasts in the Martha underground, which is what we're moving towards, will be a lot less and they will be mostly concentrated within that blast window.

Tim said: Erich, have you talked to Leigh Robcke?

Erich Schmidt said: Yes.

Tim said: What do they say? What does the council say?

Erich Schmidt said: Excuses, excuses, excuses.

Tim said: What do you think should be done about it Erich?

Erich Schmidt said: Stop it.

Bernie said: You've got to be practical about this and you've got to be reasonable about it. There will be times when, for whatever reason, we will not be able to blast within that window and that's why the best endeavours condition is in our resource consent. And it doesn't happen very often.

Erich Schmidt said: Five times a month.

Tim said: Pause a second Erich.

Bernie said: As we're moving to Martha underground we're better set up with the whole blast window to do that.

Tim said: So, that will improve at that level?

Bernie said: Exactly.

Tim said: So, you're saying it happens five times a month Erich?

Erich Schmidt said: Yes, I can prove it.

Ross said: Can I ask what's the problem with the blast being 10 mins late?

Erich Schmidt said: Not 10 minutes.

Ross said: Well sometimes it's only 10 minutes.

Erich Schmidt said: Yes and sometimes it's ¾ hour.

Ross said: What difference does it make in the great world?

Erich Schmidt said: For me a lot. It's a consent condition.

Tim said: Thank you, conversation recorded. Still a difference of opinion. A request from the company that there needs to be some reasonability about that because it's not always practical to fit within that specific

window. Erich, your request that actually it should happen every time. Bernie's suggestion that when we move to Martha the window will better fit the contingencies that come up.

Erich Schmidt said: Only they can't blast in Correnso at this time, they can't. The consent condition for Correnso is staying or they go to the Environment Court and have a new hearing.

Tim said: And they're saying already that they are using best endeavours. Thank you Erich. Other questions in relation to the complaints process?

Eric Rhodes said: If they blast late and you can't blast until next day would that affect your production?

Bernie said: Absolutely.

Eric Rhodes said: Yes I thought so.

Tim said: Alright, thank you. Anything else for Kim? This (*complaints graph*) is a new stat for us, it's great.

David said: I think you've got to look at the safety issue as well. Because if the workers are doing their best to keep within the timeframe and they've got the charges just about ready to go, you can't just say, "Oh we're going to hold off until tomorrow", because there's a safety issue so they've got to let it go a bit late, in the interests of the safety of the whole mine. Plus you're looking at explosives that have been unwrapped and put into their position ready for detonation and if there's any moisture it could very well affect the performance of that explosive.

## Community

### Amenity Effect Programme (AEP)

- July – December Payments to qualifying residents have now been delivered
- 411 payments totalling \$280,341
- \$4,785,531 million paid to residents since 2007

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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

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### AEP payments

Kim said: We touched on this earlier, we talked about AEP payments. Just to give an update, we recently, in the last two weeks I think Jeannine, made our last round of assessments and then the payments on the AEP programme. But just to clarify (*earlier in this meeting*) we have been looking at the blast results from September through to January and February and those blast results won't be included in the most recent AEP.

Jeannine said: January and February won't be in last payment, they'll be in the next round of payments.

Kim said: Obviously there's quite a lot of interest in those vibration levels. So, the last round has been paid, 411 payments totalling \$280,341 and the amount paid since 2007 is \$4,785,531. So, we obviously don't want to be in that situation, we're planning our blasting to try to avoid that but in the circumstances where those levels get up there, that's what the AEP is for.

Tim said: That's quite a significant contribution to the community isn't it really?

# Waihi Community Forum

Through roles given to the Forum in the Correnso resource consent, and goodwill programmes initiated by OceanaGold Waihi, the forum's purpose is to contribute towards a thriving and sustainable community for those residents and ratepayers living close to mining operations.

## Recent Projects Include:

- **Community Basketball Courts:** The Forum is now looking into lights, drinking fountains and artwork at the court area. The brick wall that surrounds the grass area beside the basketball courts has now been prepped and ready for Artist Shane Walker to paint. The theme will be native birds and native plants from the Waihi area.
- A submission to the Minister of Energy and Resources – Hon Megan Woods supporting the Hauraki District Council's application to review the Crown Minerals Act 1991, regarding a local share of mining royalty payments to the regions from where the minerals are derived.
- Check out a new look website [www.waihicomunityforum.co.nz](http://www.waihicomunityforum.co.nz)



## Waihi community activities

Kim said: So, just a bit of an update on some of the community activities of the Waihi Community Forum. I think for this meeting most people are probably familiar with the forum and its membership. Our recent projects include some updates to the basketball courts and improving the facilities there. That work's nearly complete. The remaining item is the wall down by the road there which will now have a nice piece of artwork put on it instead of the grey wall that's currently there and the community members of the forum have also recently made a submission during the consultation period under the Crown Minerals Act about local royalties. So, the other point we made earlier as well is that it's also a useful alternative if, for some reason, people would rather speak to another party rather than coming straight through to Oceana Gold. The forum also has its own website so you can get information from there or you can contact a member of the community forum to discuss any issue that you might want to bring up with them as well.

Kim said: Donna and myself are on the forum, two HDC members and four community members, so there's a good mix.

Tim said: We'll make sure the website is in the minutes ([www.waihicomunityforum.co.nz](http://www.waihicomunityforum.co.nz)) so people can have a look and see what's happening. That's a proactive way of people contributing to the future of Waihi.

David said: Yes, what are they going to do with the dirt on the old netball courts area?

Donna said: That's a council question. I think they're going to grass that David.

Tim said: Lou's just noted that for Leigh Robcke so that's good, we're not going to speculate.

Donna said: It just looks ugly doesn't it David?

David said: It just looks ugly and a mess for the main entrance of the eastern side of town.

Tim said: Lou and I will ask Leigh Robcke the question so that council can respond.

Erich Schmidt said: And the toilets, you need toilets there.

Donna said: There are toilets at Morgan Park, the public toilets next to the skate bowl so if you went in down Clarke Street behind the bowling club there's toilets there. They used to be open all the time but vandals got in there and smashed all the toilets and the basins so now they've had to start locking them. But they are going to be doing something about those toilets and doing them up.

Tim said: We'll get ask Leigh to put a timeline on that for us for the next lot of minutes.

Donna said: It is going to happen.

Post-meeting answer: Parks and Reserves Manager (Paul Matthews) advised as follows:

1. It is intended to grass the area. The dirt needs to be smoothed first and waste debris removed but it is currently too dry to undertake earthworks and plant grass seed.
2. The Morgan Park toilets have been shut. New toilet facilities are planned to be constructed as part of the Waihi Sport n' Action Recreation and Community Centre Development at Morgan Park. The timeframe for works is yet to be determined and will be dependent upon funding, including council funding made available via the Ten Year Plan process.

## Pit Rim Walkway

- Works on the North Wall of the pit to establish the section of the pit rim walkway that was lost during the North Wall slip are now completed.
- There will be an official opening of this section on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March.



### NORTH WALL Pit Rim Walkway RE-OPENING

SATURDAY 7 MARCH  
10.00AM  
EDUCATION CENTRE  
MORESBY AVE

Free coffee for  
Pit Rim Walkway  
users 10.00am-11.00am



INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

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## Pit rim walkway

Kim said: All good meetings should finish on a high note so we are pleased to announce that work has been done on the pit rim walkway to reinstate that part where you previously had to come off the walkway and out onto the road. We'd like to invite everyone along on 7 March at 10am just up the hill here where the truck is and join us for a coffee. For those that feel inclined, you can don your joggers and have a walk or a run or a stroll around. We'd love to see as many people as possible on 7 March. It's a great piece of work to get that back open again.

Tim said: Great, okay. Any questions about that for Kim?

Murray said: What's the timeline for taking the slip away? Has that been pushed out?

Bernie said: We've got no plans this year to do anything there, possibly towards the end of next year. The new section of the walkway where we're going to reopen it, we won't be touching that for at least the next 18 months. But, at some stage we will mine that back and realign Bulltown and Cambridge Road, which is part of our Project Martha resource consent conditions, to push that wall back, mine that wall back and take more of the slip out. But, it's not going to happen this year, it will probably more likely be some time next year.

Glenis said: I guess it was the previous company, when they actually realised there was something going wrong with that wall? Because I've got a niece who's a geologist and she came here the month before and we took her down there into the pit and she pointed and said, "Right there is a massive fault and it's going to go", and a month later it did. She could see it.

Bernie said: I think it was April 2015, when Newmont owned it, that it first started to slide. There was a wedge on the road, what we call a ramp, down into the pit that failed into the pit. That was during Newmont's period and then it just got bigger after that. So, it's been a while now, that's five years ago. Do you know when your niece's visit was? Was it around then?

Glenis said: It was just before it started slipping, like a month before, because I think it was around Easter.

Bernie said: Yes, that's probably right.

Glenis said: We were standing there looking and she was showing us and saying, "That's going to go, I'd be really concerned about that". And I thought if she could see it like that, just in a few seconds looking at it, couldn't the company have known?

Donna said: They did. They've got radar up there, they knew it was moving very slowly.

Bernie said: During our ownership we were monitoring it with a radar which is the white dish that looks like a satellite dish and we actually could predict when a big chunk was going to fall down. But I'm not sure what the monitoring was back then.

Russell said: They've had a station there based on radar, it's a theodolite that goes around on a computer programme. They knew there were issues.

Tim said: I guess the follow-up question is that given that they knew something, was it possible to do anything, or was it just a matter of staying away from it until it did its thing?

Bernie said: The answer to that is there were 2 million tonnes of material that had slipped into the pit and to hold that up the short answer to your question is no, you couldn't hold it up so it failed.

Brian said: I think the question was asked at the time of Newmont, why didn't they blast it if they said it was going to happen? There was good reasoning for that too, they let nature take its course but the general public were saying, "Well if you can see it why don't you hurry it up and do the job at least? Put some dynamite in there or something".

### **Other questions and the CEPA – SUPA community meeting process**

Tim said: We have got another meeting of this group in six months' time haven't we? So, that will be August/September. We often meet in September but we combined these two meetings. Is Thursday night okay? And in terms of this timing is 5pm okay?

Tim said: Can I ask, is the meeting useful?

Everyone said: Yes.

Tim said: Are there any suggestions about what we should add, change, subtract? Anybody we should bring along? Anybody you want to hear from?

David said: The AEP payments should be brought up inflation-wise.

Russell said: We do, we adjust them to the CPI. Every year they get adjusted.

Bernie said: We've already got that one Dave.

Tim said: CPI, not the price of gold.

Bernie said: That would go up and down wouldn't it so you don't want that because the gold price doesn't always go up.

Tim said: Has everybody given their name, address and email address to Jeannine? You're not allowed to leave until you have.

Brian said: Just a quick question, if you could bring us up to date with the job losses? Because there's obviously a lot of talk around town.

Bernie said: Sure. I mentioned at the previous meeting, and I might have touched on it at this one, that our processing plant will be shut down for most of this year starting this weekend. The Correnso mine as we've talked about is winding down, we've just got the narrow vein mining coming up so as a consequence of that we don't need the same number of personnel for our processing plant for a period of time. We will continue to do water treatment and we need a certain number of people for that but the rest of the processing plant is being put on care and maintenance. We just have to keep things turning over every now and then, like pumps and the mills, you've got to spin them every now and then so we need a certain amount of people for that. But, as a consequence we have identified there are 17 positions in the processing plant that we have had to reduce by, so that's 17 redundancies effectively. Now some of those people affected have been able

to transfer into other jobs but others will lose their jobs and that will be effective 10 March which will be the last day for some of those people.

Brian said: I did hear some good news, there was a local company which is looking at trying to employ one or two of these guys, so it would be really nice if there were one or three more businesses in the area, even if it's only for a year.

Bernie said: Yes, we've also been taking on people in the underground mine. About two or three months ago we recruited a number of female operators for our underground mine, which has been a first. They worked mainly on the surface but we have been taking on people including some operators and some more engineers and geologists. So, we haven't been able to transfer as many people from the processing plant into those areas because the skills are different but it's not all bad news about job losses, there's a balance there where we're taking on some people in other areas. And in the exploration area we've also been winding back, Altons have reduced their workforce because we've reduced the number of drill rigs that they've got working and that in turn also affects some of their people with staff so there's a number of positions there that will reduce. It's not as many as the 17, it's around about 10 positions in that exploration area.

Glenis said: Does it work "last on, first off"?

Bernie said: No it doesn't actually Glenis. We put together a selection criteria based on a range of different factors such as previous performance, attendance level, safety record, the skills they can offer. So, it's not "last on, first off".

Russell said: Some have taken early retirement as well.

Bernie said: Yes there's been a couple in their late 60's who have decided to do something else.

Glenis said: Are they included in the number that have been laid off? In the 17 and the 10?

Bernie said: Yes, they are.

Tim said: Erich, a question for you?

Erich Schmidt said: How many overall will get made redundant? That's the 17 from your processing. When can we get the final number? I'm very interested.

Bernie said: We're still working through that Erich, I haven't got the final number on that because it hasn't come into effect yet. We're still working on some of them being transferred, so I haven't got the final number. Well, we're still working with people, we've got to be careful here, we're dealing with people and you've got to do that with some sensibility and sensitivity here. So, we'll let you know when the time's right.

Tim said: Okay, Oceana's obligations to its employees too to make sure that there's not disclosure.

So, we're going to meet again in six months' time, you're going to get copies of the minutes if you've asked for them to be sent to you, otherwise there will be a link that you can click on and read them on the website and also if you want a copy of the audio recording then you can ask for a link and you can listen to the meeting.

I just wanted to thank those who've attended. It's because of you coming and the questions that you ask that we get the opportunity to do the continual improvement process. I'm hearing what your questions are, what the gaps are and what you need to know, so thanks for coming. Bernie/Kim anything else you'd like to say in closing?

Bernie said: Yes, just one final thank you all for attending and thank you for your interest and we look forward to seeing you at the next meeting and you're welcome to come along to the Martha underground meeting in three months' time. It will be in May some time. If you've got an interest in what's happening in the Martha underground mine which is where we're heading you can come along to that as well.

Tim said: Likely to be the last Thursday in May if that's a date that works for everybody. Let's get back to you about that. We could put that date in the minutes. Both meeting dates will be in the minutes.

The meeting concluded at 6.15pm.

**Next meeting: 5pm, Thursday 27 August 2020**

<b>Attendance register</b>	
David Carrington	Eric Rhodes
Brian Gentil	Glenis Gentil
Ross MacDonald	Vivienne Pickford
Helga and Erich Schmidt	Murray Elliott
Dee Stevenson	Bernie O'Leary
Russell Squire	Kim Calderwood
Kyle Welton	Donna Fisher
Phil Salmon	Jeannine Wiki
Tim Clarke	Louise Fielden