

# Project Martha / Correnso (CEPA) Combined Community Meeting

Thursday 9 March 2023

The following is a record of the Project Martha and CEPA/SUPA combined community meeting held at 5.30pm on 9 March 2023. Where possible, we have tried to capture individual contributions at the meeting but these do not purport to be verbatim notes.

## Welcome

Tim Clarke said: Welcome everybody. I think this is the fourth *joint* meeting of the Correnso and Martha meeting process to talk about the current mining activity in both Martha and Correnso. I am an independent facilitator; this is what I do. I don't work for Oceana (yes, they pay me, no, they don't tell me what to do).

As usual, the meeting is being recorded because Lou and I prepare a set of minutes for the meeting as a record of what's been said. If you've got a question, please say your name before you ask the question then we can attribute the question to the person who's asked it and make sure we get the answer back to the person who's asked. Sometimes it is possible to answer things right on the spot. Sometimes it's better to hold them until the end of the meeting because they're about a different subject and sometimes it's necessary to go away and get the answer and come back with it. From the 22 September 2022 meeting we were able to insert answers into the minutes (before they went out). There are two or three that came up that Oceana have got answers for in the presentation.

*(Everyone was asked to introduce themselves – see attendance list at the end of the minutes).*

## Purpose of meeting

Kyle Welten said: I'm the Superintendent External Affairs Social Performance and I work closely with everyone from Oceana Gold here in the room. It's good to see some familiar faces and nice to see some not so familiar ones here today as well.

## 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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# Project Martha

## Purpose of meeting

Under Condition 99 of the Project Martha consents we are required to hold community meetings quarterly during the first year of mining activities provided for under this consent, and six-monthly thereafter.

- 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.

Kyle said: Just a reminder of what these meetings are about. These meetings are resource consent conditions for our Correnso underground mine which, as Paddy will probably touch on, there's not much activity happening in currently, as well as our Project Martha or the Martha underground which is the mining we are currently doing under the Martha pit.

# Community Meeting

## Outline

- **POINTS FROM LAST MEETING**
- **MINING UPDATE**
- **ENVIRONMENT**
- **SOCIAL & COMMUNITY**

Kyle said: The consent conditions describe the purpose of these meetings and largely it is to provide a description of the mining activities that we have undertaken under each of those consents for the six months prior; a summary of relevant environmental compliance which is why Mark's here; progress with the IRP property purchase programme and any matters that get raised from the previous meeting. So, that's why we're all here because we've got an interest in what's happening.

## Points from last Correnso & Project Martha Meetings:

- Underground Mine Tour for Residents
- Blast Notification Changeover to Project Martha from Correnso

### Points from last meeting

#### Underground mine tours:

Kyle said: We'll start with a couple of points from the previous meeting and this top point has come up several times – underground mine tours for residents. We tried to put it to bed last time. I'm putting it to bed this time. Oceana Gold will not be offering underground tours.

Dave Wellington said: With the raffle that was run for a tour underground, if an 80-year-old had won that, would you have said, "No, you can't come in because of health and safety?"

Kyle said: We 100% would have, yes.

Dave said: So, you can run a raffle to promote the mine but you can't let people who are concerned about it go under and have a look.

Kyle said: I've had that conversation with our Mine Rescue Team because, like I said last time, I was not aware that was happening. We've put a stop to it. They are no longer raffling off underground tours.

Dave said: No, that doesn't nullify the fact that they were bruv.

Kyle said: Yes, we were. It was offered as a prize in previous years as a fundraiser for blood cancer and leukaemia. We've spoken to our Mines Rescue Team who did that without our knowledge and said, "That is not to happen if we cannot be taking underground tours for residents who are asking for them". So, it is not happening any further.

Dave said: So, if it's pro-mine and it's good publicity we'll send an 80-year-old under there.

Tim said: Dave, no, it's a no for everybody. One of the things that I want to avoid as facilitator of this meeting is people leaving this meeting confused.

Dave said: I'm not confusing people, it's a yes or no.

Tim said: Dave, it's a no. It's a no. It's really simple. It's not a re-interpreted no, Dave. It's a no.

#### Notification of meeting:

Glenis Gentil said: Can you just go back to the last PowerPoint slide? I just want to check with my glasses on. Does it say "public" on there? Because that's something I brought up last time how the word "public" never seems to come out and that is in the consent, "open to the public".

Kyle said: It's not on there but I would argue this meeting is open to the public ...

Dave said: That's not how it's written in the ad.

Kyle said: ... and it has been advertised pretty extensively.

Tim said: Where has it been advertised? What was the notification process for the meeting?

Josh Smith said: Most of you should get the Mining Matters. We had it advertised in the February and March editions. Our Facebook page had ...

Erich Schmidt said: March? We didn't it.

Jeannine Wiki said: Do you not get the Mining Matters?

Erich said: No.

Helga Schmidt said: No.

Jeannine said: I'll chase up our delivery lady.

Josh said: Our company Facebook page had the notice of the invite on 2 March, which was a week ago, and today, just as a reminder and we also had it in our monthly piece in the Hauraki-Coromandel Post newspaper which has about 20,000 copies a week, by their numbers, across Thames, Tairua, Whangamata, Waihi, Waihi Beach, Paeroa, Ngatea and the Hauraki Plains.

Erich said: That's correct, it was in the newspaper only I'm not on Facebook, I'm not on Tinder, I'm not on any of this social bullshit.

Tim said: You would be in so much trouble with Helga if you were on Tinder I'm sure.

Erich said: No, no.

Helga said: Yes.

Helga said: Our neighbour at 5 Barry Road also didn't get it.

Dave said: Yeah, but see, in that ad it specifies for the people affected by the two mines. That's not how the consent was written is it? The ad is very ... has anybody got a copy of the ad? We brought this up at the last meeting ... how your wording ... your man here is saying that the paper goes to everywhere around the motu but the specifics in the ad say it's only for people affected by the two small parts of the mine.

Tim said: Dave, let me read out what it says. *"Our next Correnso and Project Martha community meeting will be held on Thursday 9 March from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. This meeting is designed to provide an update to affected residents within the Correnso and Project Martha including Rex mining areas ... about works undertaken ... since the previous meeting ... the meeting will be held in the Oceana Gold Education Centre on the corner of Moresby Avenue and Savage Road. In the meantime, if you have any questions call the project office."* They have specified what the meeting is about and that's ...

Dave said: No, no, you read that as it's specifically for the people under those mines, it says "within". So, the paper might go to 20,000 people but they don't include themselves when they read the ad.

Kyle said: It says "designed to" because we want to be clear on what the intention of the meeting is.

Dave said: No, I'm sure when council said in your consents that you had to have a six-monthly meeting that was with everybody in Waihi and ...

Kyle said: This meeting is for anyone and everyone who's interested in what's happening.

Dave said: What about the Rex and Correnso bit?

Martin Barber said: Who do you classify as being affected by those mines?

Dave said: Everybody in Waihi.

Martin said: I live outside probably what they consider the affected area for those particular mines. They didn't ask me at the door whether I lived in the area ... therefore I wasn't barred from the meeting, therefore it's a public meeting.

Dave said: Yeah but it's not written that way.

Martin said: I read it in the newspaper once, I wrote it on the calendar and just before I came out tonight I checked on their Facebook page to confirm it was on ...

Kyle said: I'll just jump in. Can we put the words "public meeting" in the ad next time?

Dave said: And what about the bit about the Correnso and the Martha?

Tim said: People need to be told what the meeting is for (otherwise) we'll end up with people coming, not knowing and walking out again.

Glenis said: Can I just add that the consent does say it's a meeting open to the public and the consent does not say it is for affected residents of those two areas.

Brian Gentil said: Could you not take the word "affected" out?

Kyle said: As long as the intent is it's still meeting the condition, which is to talk about Correnso and Martha, I'm sure we can change the wording up a bit. I want to be clear that when we put the ads out it is purely about trying to describe to those who might be interested what the intent of the meeting is.

Brian said: It would be of particular interest to people in these particular areas because if I'm in Invercargill and I'm thinking of buying in Waihi, I'm affected. If I'm living by the college and my son is thinking of buying or renting in that area, we're affected.

Josh said: That's why we've got the due diligence process where people buying there can come and see us.

Jane Murray said: A lot of people don't get the HDC newspaper. Why can't they go in the other newspapers as well?

Tim said: What we've agreed to so far is that the word "public" will be inserted in the notice of the meeting and however it's worded it won't imply that it's only for those people who are affected by ...

Josh said: There'll be something added to clarify, so long as it still meets the consent criteria ...

Glenis said: The condition says the purpose of the meeting "Shall be to present information from the preceding six months on the following: a description of the mining activities provided for under this consent that have been undertaken, a summary of relevant environmental monitoring results and progress on any matters raised at the preceding meeting and to receive feedback from the meeting attendees on the consent-holder's activities and progress on the matters listed above."

Tim said: Which is very close to what's up on the PowerPoint Slide. It's been paraphrased but it's pretty close.

Dave said: Just in bear in mind that at the last meeting it wasn't in the paper at all. Someone forgot to put it in.

Donna Fisher said: It was in the paper for this meeting.

Dave said: Yeah, it was but last time it wasn't and it's once in the paper and yet you've run quite a few ads. You could run it twice. When did this ad go in?

Josh said: In the February edition, in the most recent edition before this meeting.

### **Blast notification changeover from Correnso to Martha:**

Kyle said: Last time there was an issue with changing over from Correnso to Project Martha, the numbers of each blast weren't getting logged and I think Erich was going to send us his list ...

Erich said: Yep, I did and what I got back is bullshit. I want feedback in hard copy, it's written in here (in the minutes of the previous meeting).

Jeannine said: I didn't send a hard copy, I emailed it.

Erich said: Yeah, why? This is against the Privacy Act. Next time I'll sue you.

Tim said: So, that's in future it will come back in hard copy?

Erich said: No, it should be last time in hard copy.

Tim said: Do you want last time's information in hard copy to you?

Helga said: Yeah. Erich said: Yeah.

Kyle said: Apologies that we didn't get it in hard copy. Jeannine will make sure we get it to you in hard copy.

Donna said: Tomorrow.

Erich said: I don't want any phone calls or emails from you and you have to comply.

Helga said: It was said earlier, we don't want to be contacted by email at any time.

Glenis said: Just one point from the previous meeting. We did talk about the 75ha of residential land and an application from Oceana Gold to the Overseas Investment Office (OIO) and there and in the audio and in the minutes it said that ... basically that there was never any application for 75ha but it was actually in the application and in the assessment report that Oceana Gold had applied for that up to 75ha. So, I just want to clarify that because otherwise it kind of can be misconstrued in the minutes coming out and the discussions that we've had about it that Oceana Gold never did apply for 75ha of residential land in Waihi when in fact, according to the records I have from the OIO, they did.

Tim said: From the minutes of the previous meeting, "Kyle read out post-meeting answer from the previous minutes that said: *'There hasn't been an OIO application to purchase 75ha of residential land. Likely what is being referred to is the standing consent with the OIO granted us in 2020 which authorises 15 transaction purchases over a total of 75ha but each property no more than 5ha which was part of the Martha Underground so we could purchase the Rex properties.'*"

Kyle said: It feels like the confusion is that I thought you were asking me, "Has a new application gone in?" We weren't saying one has never gone in because obviously one's been granted ... you're probably asking me about this one which I read out ...

Glenis said: No, I was asking about the one that went in in 2020 that actually had ...

Kyle said: We're talking about the same thing.

Glenis said: Yeah, we're talking about the same thing. I just wanted to clarify it because otherwise it looks like there was never an application for that 75ha.

Brian said: Thank you. I'd just like to back that up with the simple fact that in 2020, or 2021, as a Hauraki district councillor, I brought it up within council. All councillors said they knew nothing of it. I was called a conspiracy theorist and at my last council meeting I brought it up again it, brought it up on the website, showed them all and they all looked a bit ... nobody apologised but I'd been doing it for 18 months, saying, "Where is it? What's happening?" and nobody had followed it up and nobody looked at. So, it's been there for that long.

Tim said: So, in summary this isn't a ...?

Brian said: ... conspiracy ...

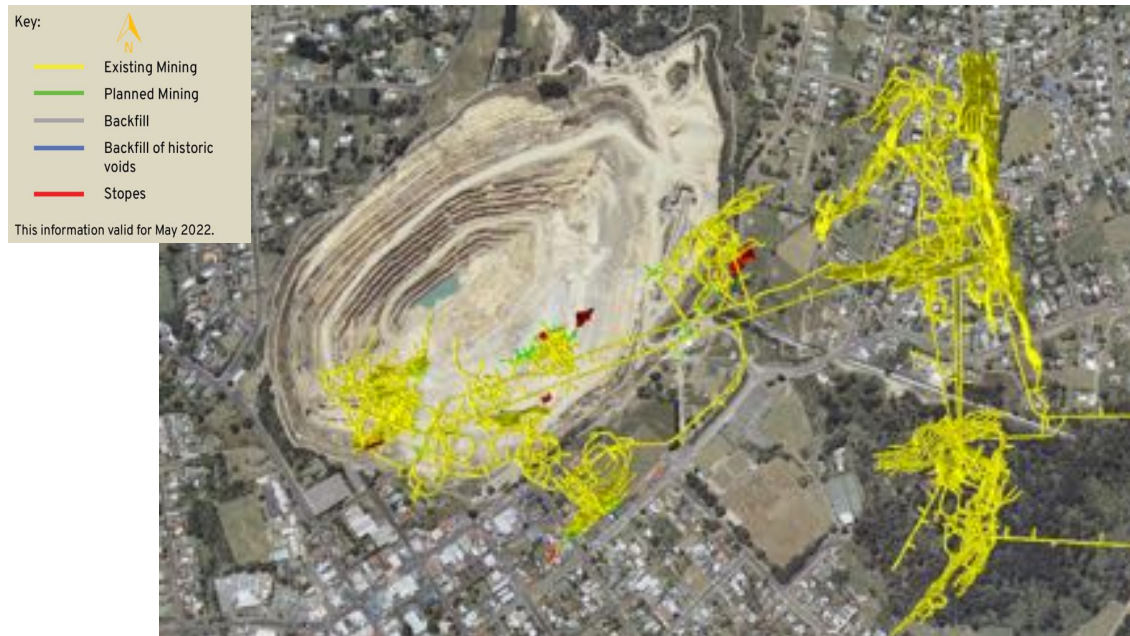
Kyle said: I'm not sure of the nuance and I don't think it's relevant to what we're talking about today. I appreciate you wanting to raise it. I gave the answer last time. I think it's done. The comments by Hauraki District Council are a question for the council.

Glenis said: It takes six months to get a clarification (in the minutes) that's the problem, when there's an error in the information that's given to this meeting.

Tim said: That question was answered a year ago in the post-meeting minutes and (unfortunately) you and Brian didn't end up getting the minutes and that problem's been fixed. Then the answer was repeated in the last set of minutes. Did you get the last set of minutes?

Glenis said: Yeah, but it didn't actually clarify that it was in fact true that the application did contain the wording that it was for 75ha of residential Waihi land, which is what my point was.

## March Works



Patrick Slagter introduced himself as the new Underground Manager and talked a bit about his background (because it was his first meeting).

Patrick said: We are focusing most of our efforts in and around the Edward load at the present time, Empire West and to a lesser extent around the Empire load itself.

Erich said: Can you point to where this is? Not everybody knows.

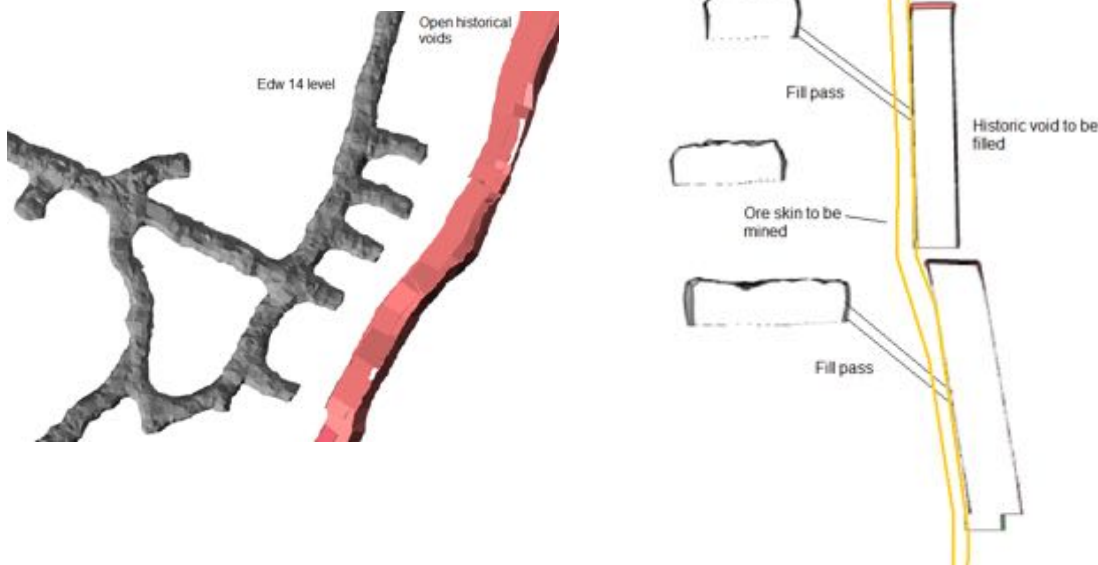
Patrick said: Sure thing. This is the Empire mine, this is the Empire West mine and this one here is the Edward mine, we've got the Rex and mixed in the middle there is the Royal West on the Royal vein. So, that's our central focus of area. Mining on the Royal West is largely complete. We've just about finished what we have planned to do in that area. Mining on Rex, we're in the upper level of that now so that will sort of draw rapidly to a conclusion through the balance of this year and probably into next year as we start to change our mining method around from conventional avoca stoping, which is what we're doing at the present time, and transition to a flack backing method of mining.

The Empire West is probably one of the more interesting areas for us. The other mining we are doing is largely conventional but inside the Empire West we've got a top-down sequence where we're recovering some of the old fill material. Traditionally it's expensive to mine, it's expensive to mine waste and it was expensive to mine waste 100 years ago. They didn't have access to waste fill like we do, or the way we choose to mine these days, so they rejected marginal material that wasn't a high enough grade for them to process and they filled their stopes with this material, which grades quite well for us with the processing techniques we use today.

We develop into that ore body, we extract out that mineralised material, we then backfill that area with cemented rock fill and then it's a top-down sequence, we then come in under that block of cemented fill and then continue to sequence down. So, effectively, just extracting the historical fill material that's within that mining sequence. The material is really hard, surprisingly hard. It looks like a clay-like material with some inclusions in it but it is a lot more difficult to get moving than perhaps we had imagined. You would think it's just loose fill, it should be free flowing and reasonably easy to manage but it presents some challenges as does the interaction with the historical workings which, in their own right, are quite fascinating too. There's been some magnificent examples of some of the work that was done back there. They certainly worked a lot harder than I would choose to work today.



## Backfilling historic voids



Patrick said: The last area is just in the Edward load there. We've done a reasonable amount of mining in the upper levels. Our highest level was 6 level, between 6 level and 12 to 13 level we've taken a lot of the secondary veins of stuff that the traditional mining didn't do and now we're in a position where we start to mine again some of the historical workings which are quite large, they are quite significant voids to mine in and around. So, we look to recover the fill material, it will have some collapsed material in the stopes as well. We will again clean out those openings, back fill with cemented products which allows us then to mine the material adjacent to those. We take the material which is adjacent which is still economic for us to mine and we take the pillars that the old timers left behind. Once we've stabilised the area with cemented fill or rock fill, loose rock fill, we'll take out the material in between their stoping panels and also underneath their stoping panels, between the risers.

Jane said: What was the drone doing buzzing over the open pit the other morning?

Donna said: Weed spraying. Josh put it on our Facebook page that we would be using a drone to do weed spraying just to keep the weeds a bit under control.

Erich said: No good on the Facebook page.

Bill Thomson-Prosser said: That big slip on the North Wall a couple of years back, I was wondering if you were mining that?

Patrick said: No, we're principally on the southern and western walls. The slip is still in the pit and it's not accessible. We actually had an inspection about a month ago down there in the slip area. We can access the open pit from underground, we've got our primary ventilation which just sits in this convoluted structure in here and that ventilates out here which is where our primary fans sit. We also have a second means of egress and an intake right on the western end of the pit as well. So, we can use either of those for a second means of egress from the mine, to escape the mine should we need to and also serve as an exhaust, a fresh air intake to the workings and give us access to the bottom of the pit as well for inspection.

Heather Ross said: Is that Kenny Street going along there? Is that the Rex?

Patrick said: That's Rex, that's right.

Jeannine said: That's Kenny Street.

Heather said: And at the Rex, have you finished mining there?

Patrick said: Not quite, we're just starting to stope out which is a mining term for mining the panel between two levels. Our levels in Rex are normally 14m apart and in most of the rest of the mine we've got levels 18m apart. Different mines use different mining methods – they could be 25m, 40m or 60m apart. It will depend on the



width of the ore and whether the ore moves around a lot. To answer your question, we've got two levels we're currently mining and then we've got some material above that for which we'll change our mining method from conventional avoca, which is just drilling holes, to developing it with our development drill.

Heather said: How long do you think you'll be mining there by Kenny Street?

Patrick said: We should complete the stoping section this year and then we need to do some further development to finish off the flat backing section of the mine workings.

Heather said: You don't think you'll be coming across Kenny Street?

Patrick said: No.

Heather said: My granddad mined years ago and he gave me two bottles full of gold stones You could see the gold in it. It was full of water but I gave them away. I gave them to my uncle and his sons.

Patrick said: No, that's the limit of our mining boundary as well and quite frankly it's probably somewhere around that sort of vicinity toward the west as well, to the southern end of this drive.

Heather said: And there you'll stop?

Patrick said: Yes, that's where we'll stop.

Brian said: Paddy, with the underground that you're doing under Martha mine at the moment, it sounds like this year you're going to be pretty well up to date and then next year you're going to do some more searching. How does that affect you possibly going in on top? Can you work on top as well as underneath at the same time?

Patrick said: We do, so we'll leave a pillar of rock and we will mine between those levels. It allows us to do multiple levels and multiple activities at one time to make it economic.

Brian said: So, one could overlap the other.

Patrick said: Quite easily, yes.

Brian said: Obviously there's been talk since 2007 about the lake. Will you going underneath and finding more gold etc make the lake deeper or will there be holes and leaks?

Patrick said: Actually, for underground, there are lots of leaks right now. The water that we've had in the last couple of months has been extraordinary and concentrated so you couldn't ask for a better situation where you've got 35ha to 40ha of catchment sitting right above a network of historic workings. So, it's just a big leaky bucket, it's got so many holes in it and they're everywhere. The water that we've got we're pumping that down. In the Edward, at the bottom, our lowest level is level 21. At the moment, the water is between 20 and 21 level in that decline and in the Empire it sits just above the 19 level and that's around the lowest level as well. So, quite high.

Brian said: What's the depth of 20-21? Is it 300m? Is it 150m? Roughly, when you're on level 21.

Patrick said: It is just over 600-ish RL. It is 1100 at the surface so it is down around 500m. It is quite deep.

Brian said: Is that as far as the oldies got?

Donna and Jeannine said: They got to 600.

Patrick said: They were a little bit below us still but not too much more. They started running out of pump and puff and economics.

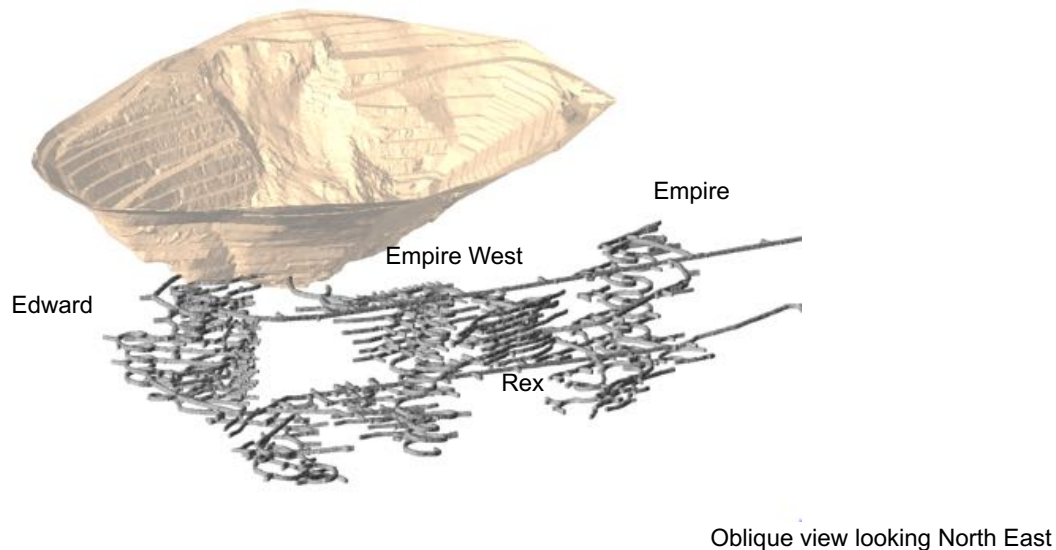
Bill said: On telly they pump the gold from underneath rivers and things. You've got lots of water there – is there any way of pumping that slip up top rather than using trucks? I just wondered if the water could be used to suck stones and things up from the slip to make it easier to access. You have lots of water.

Patrick said: We certainly do, we're blessed here with water. Slurry mining is an option. Most certainly, slurry conveyance of materials is a mining option they use in the iron sands. It's not something that I would see employed in that volume of material. It wouldn't be economic.

Bill said: On telly they have big pipes that they use to suck all the stuff from the bottom of the river. If you had ways of getting it up top it might just help facilitate the removal.

Patrick said: Yes, I had a fine time in St Bathens recently and that's exactly how they did their mining down there. It was one of the highest vacuum structures in the world at the time.

## Project Martha as of March 2023



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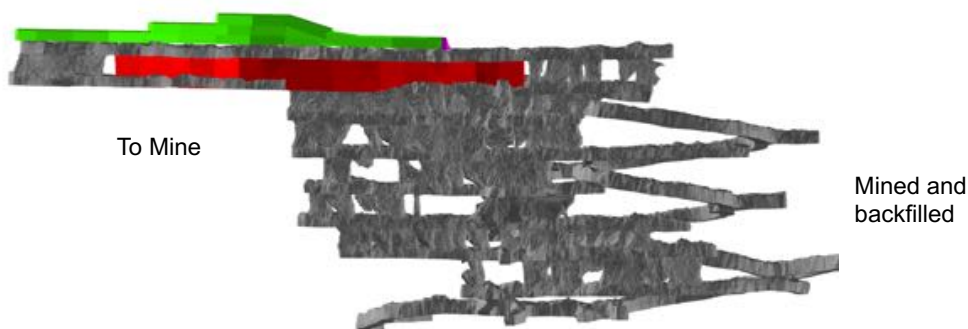
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Patrick said: So just in profile there, that's the extent of our mining as of March. This is the bottom of the Edward there and the base of the Royal load is there. In Rex, we started at the bottom and we're actually up toward the top here (pointing to the slide). In Empire, that's the base of where we are at the moment. The water is sitting about here (pointing) and in Empire West the Empire load is sitting in the middle there which is an area of quite high focus this year with that top-down sequence removing that historic material.

## Project Rex

- Level 10 through 4 stoped and backfilled
- Currently stoping 2 level
- Vibration being maintained through decking



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Patrick said: In the Rex project, that's what we're up to (red bit on the slide above). This is the stoping sequence that we're focused on this year, taking that material out. Then we'll come in and do the lateral lifts to bring that section to completion in the current mine plan.

Brian said: On the slide there it says “vibration being controlled by decking”. What does that mean?

Patrick said: In order to control the amount of explosive that we fire with any given depths at a maximum instantaneous charge (MIC), we use decking to break up the length of the column. So, we have levels in Rex that are nominally 14m. We will put a lateral drive through that which is 5m high so we'll end up with a bench that's 9m. We drill 64mm holes in that but we can't charge a full column of explosive in there because it will induce a vibration level that's too high. So, in order to control that we “deck” it – we put in rock effectively, some explosives, a blasting detonator, some more rock and then we repeat that. So, in Rex we're doing that up to three to four times. At the moment, we can vary our blasting instantaneous charges underground anywhere between 30 drill at the lower levels and up at Rex we manage through around 6kg of explosive which is a relatively small amount of explosive to blast. It adds complications but it's kind of an interesting science in its own right to minimise that effect and the blast engineers who I work with do a pretty magnificent job. It's science and art and it's all mixed together with some theoretical rules for protecting the outcome so it's always interesting to see what happens as a result of the design work.

*(Modified Avoca Slides – not repeated here in these minutes. They were in this presentation but not talked about and have been covered in previous minutes.)*

Patrick said: Nothing more from me. Are there any more questions?

## Vibration

### Vibration

#### Project Martha

Six-month to date performance (for 6 months from 01/07/2022 - 31/12/2022)

- 313 blast events
- Development blasting
  - Highest average 0.82 mm/s (consent limit 2 mm/s)
  - 95 percentile 2.55 mm/s (consent limit 5 mm/s)
- Production blasting
  - Highest average 1.35 mm/s (consent limit 2 mm/s)
  - 95 percentile 3.78 mm/s (consent limit 5 mm/s)
- No Safety/Maintenance blasting
- 3 blasts > 5 mm/s in last 6 months, still within all compliance limits

Vibration system communications outage during November/December:

- Blasts recorded by monitors not automatically sent to OGL server
- All results downloaded manually, no loss of data during this time
- System fully operational now

#### Correnso

- Only four blasts in Correnso in last 6 months, all below 3 mm/s vibration

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Mark Burroughs said: My name's Mark. I'm in the environment department at Oceana Gold and for this meeting we've got quite a few environmental slides. Cassie, who normally does the vibration, is on holiday at the moment so I'm going to try and do her bit for her.

This is a summary of the results that they had in the six-month period from July to the end of 2022. They've got all the numbers there for you. As you can see, the focus of blasting is now on Project Martha compared to Correnso where they only had four blasts.

There were 313 blasts in the Project Martha area. For the development blasting, the highest average was 0.8 and our consent limit is 2 so it was under the consent limit. Then there's the 95 percentile which was 2.5 and our consent limit is 5. So, for the development blasting we've been compliant with our blasting. For the production, which is big blasts, the stopes, to get the gold out, the highest average was 1.3 and our limit is 2. So, it's under 2 and the 95 percentile was 3.7 and our limit is 5.

They didn't do any safety or maintenance blasting but we did have three blasts during that period that were above the 5mm limit but our averages are still compliant with our consent conditions. We had a bit of an outage with the comms of the vibration system in November and December. It took quite a long time to figure out what the problem was. All the monitors were still recording data, we still had all that data coming in but it wasn't

showing on the community website. There was no loss of data during this time and we were actually having to do some manual downloads as well. The system is fully operational now.

In Correnso there were only four blasts. Things are pretty much getting wound up over there unless they discover something new I guess.

Brian said: What caused the down time?

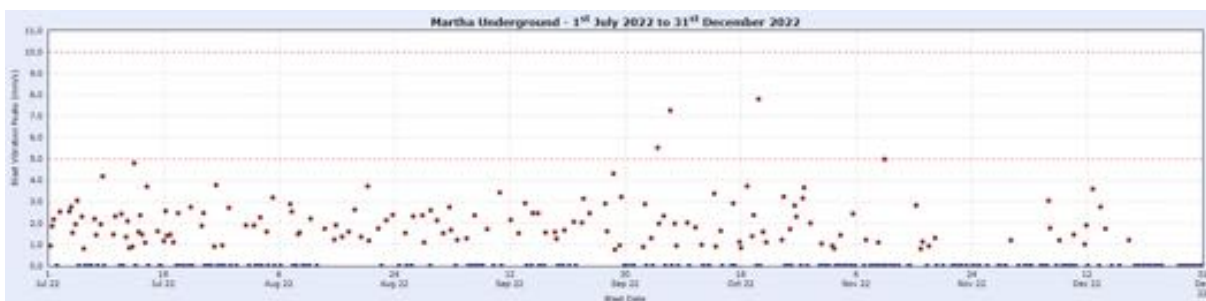
Mark said: It was an IT security system firewall thing that had been updated and nobody could figure out what exactly was the cause of it. It had to go to Oceana Gold Corporate to try and figure out why it wasn't working.

Erich said: Somebody told me there was a flooding in Australia which is why the thing wasn't working.

Mark said: That was an earlier event when the system was down for a while there, different to this event.

## Vibration

### Project Martha



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Mark said: This chart will give you a good summary of all the blasts and the levels over that six-month period. You can see those three above. That's the 5mm and we try to stay below the 5 but sometimes things happen. There are three above the 5mm during that period. Any questions?

## TSFs - Earthquakes and cyclones

The 5.1 magnitude earthquake located ~ 25km away in west Te Aroha triggered a TSF "Alert" level as defined in OG Waihi's TSF Operation Manual.

- Formal visual inspection undertaken
- Piezometers assessed
- Seepage flows monitored
- Engineering Geology consulted
- No issues identified

TABLE C8 EARTHQUAKE ALERT AND ALARM TRIGGER LEVELS

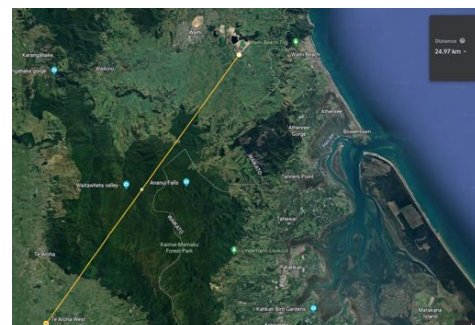
Refer to [www.geonet.org.nz](http://www.geonet.org.nz) to confirm the magnitude and distance of the felt earthquake to the Mine Site.

Magnitude (Mw)	Distance of Earthquake to Mine Site	
	Alert Level	Alarm Level
M<5	<20km	<10km
5<M<6	<50km	<20km
6<M<7	<100km	<50km
7<M<9	<200km	<100km

Notes:

If the alert level is reached, a formal visual inspection of the TSFs in accordance with Section 10.3 must be carried out and the checklist included in Appendix A completed.

If the alarm level is reached, a formal visual inspection of the TSFs in accordance with Section 10.3 must be carried out and the checklist included in Appendix A completed. In addition, a full set of measurements of the piezometric levels, seepage flows and deformation bench marks must be taken and checked against their respective alert and alarm levels.



INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

OCEANA GOLD

Mark said: I thought I'd put some extra slides in here because it's been a pretty unusual summer. We've had earthquakes over in Te Aroha and we've had two cyclones come through. This is a bit of information about what we do here at Oceana Gold when these things happen. The 5.1 magnitude, which was the biggest one over here in Te Aroha west, was about 25km away. In our operations manual we have all these trigger alert and alarm levels already designed and they prompt different responses regarding what we have to do if we hit one of those levels.

We did hit an alert level because it was a 5.1 and it was up to 50km away so we did a lot of monitoring to make sure that everything was okay. The first thing we do is a formal visual inspection. That involves going around and checking all the pipework, looking for cracks, anything like that, anything that is abnormal. We also look at all the water levels. We have sensors in all those dams telling us what the water's doing. All those were assessed. We also have lots of seepage flows that come out of the dams. We checked all those flows to make sure there was nothing, no strange changes in the flow rates. We also consulted TSF Engineers to make sure that we were looking at the right things, and they said, "Yes" and we didn't find any issues at all with that.

## TSFs - Earthquakes and cyclones

The OG meteorological station at Martha Pit recorded 1039mm of rain over 42 days.

Over the same period last year we received 160mm.

- Cyclone Hale – 1 in 20 year event (282mm in 48 hours)
- Cyclone Gabrielle – 1 in 10 year event (217mm in 24 hours)

TSFs fully compliant



Mark said: With the cyclones, we've got a met station over here on the other side of the pit. It has a rain gauge and we recorded 1,039mm of rain in 42 days. As a comparison, at the same time last year we got 160mm. We got more rain from Cyclone Hale, that first event, than we did from the recent one. It was a 1-in-20-year event and we got 282mm in two days. Gabriel was a 1-in-10-year event and we got 217mm in 24 hours. So, quite a lot of rain. This is a photo of the dam about three days after all that rain and you can see the water level has increased a little bit on the dam. The water went up by about 1.3m but we still had a lot of clearance as it's designed to ...

Erich said: How much?

Mark said: About 3.1m I think it is. There is a 2.6m freeboard and that's a "you cannot go into that freeboard" (hard limit) and it got up to about 50cm below that.

After all that rain the TSF is fully compliant and there were no problems. At the moment, we do have a lot of water on the dam and we are actively pumping that away to the water treatment plant.

# Tailings results

Date	Data Point	Aluminium	Antimony	Arsenic -	Cadmium	Chloride	Chromium	Copper-A	Iron-Diss	Lead -	Acid	Magnesium	Nickel-Diss	pH	unit	Selenium	Silver-Acid	Sulphate	Total Susp	Weak Acid	Zinc-Diss
13/06/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.38	0.28	0.014	0.00024	111	0.009	2.7	1.6				0.328	8.6	0.167		0.0082	1400	348400	3.1	2.46
9/08/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.062	0.88	0.002	0.0001	125	0.0077	0.024	4.3	0.0028	10.3	0.34	9.48	0.35					95	49	2.8
12/08/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.113	0.82	0.002	0.00064	81	0.0066	0.068	5.609				0.355	9.8	0.422				231200	98	1.868
19/08/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.136	1.04	0.056	0.00181	75	0.0098	0.045	2.5	0.0022	4.1	0.41	10.4	0.21		0.0027	2100		48	123	2.9
25/08/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.3	0.72	0.043	0.00167	107	0.01	2.5						12.15						80	
29/09/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.58	0.051	0.01	0.0024	420	0.0081	7.7	0.13				0.93	10.1	12				404200	129	1.58
7/10/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.26	0.089	0.012	0.0014	320	0.007	5.3	0.03				0.73	10.3	0.22				404200	120	2.2
14/10/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.31	0.035	0.008	0.0024	270	0.0066	4.9	0.46				0.765	11.43	0.147				386300	101	1.486
21/10/2011	Tailings Storage 1a	0.29	0.076	0.016	0.0015	320	0.0076	7	0.095				0.661	10.5	0.164				385800	97	1.878
		0.270111	0.443444	0.018111	0.001351	203.2222	0.008044	3.359667	1.8405	0.0025	7.2	0.564875	10.30667	1.71	0.00545			1750	270030.4	88.9	2.1465

The OGNZL Geochemist said the results recorded from the spigot would be similar to what is in the dam (except CN which breaks down quickly)

Mark said: There was a request about what's actually in these tailings dams when you go down deep. I spoke to our geochemist, we have a geochemist advisor with all his chemistry and science and the like, and he said the results that you get from the spigot, at the top of the dam, would be very similar to what is in dam anyway, except for the cyanide because cyanide breaks down really quickly. I pulled up some old results from 2011. These metals here would be something similar to what you'd find in the middle of the dam because TSF1 has been going since 2001. One thing that really stands out is the average sediment, the total suspended solids is very, very high. If we want to discharge to river it has to be under 100. This is very, very fine sediment, it's basically silt, that's up there in the dams.

Erich said: So, put this all to the side. Why don't you go and take a sample from the sediment?

Mark said: It's very difficult to do that.

Erich said: No.

Mark said: How would you do it? A drill rig?

Erich said: No. I'll show you (holding up a jar containing water and dirt from his garden). You put this (straw) in, close it up, here you've got the sediment. How easy. They do this in the ocean at 5,000m down and you say you can't do it? You don't want to.

Mark said: Well, these results will be indicative of what we would find.

Dave said: It would be pretty solid at the bottom wouldn't it? I don't think you could stick a pipe in it.

Erich said: Yes.

Dave said: I can see the lead up there (on the chart) though. Not very impressed bro. But the sediment is going to drop. It will be pretty firm at the bottom.

Erich said: That (his sample for his demonstration) is also firm.

Mark said: It's very, very fine sediment and it would be very, very hard to use that method to ...

Erich said: No, it's not. That's also fine.

Tim said: You're saying that the advice you're getting is that the results that are here are pretty close to (the water coming out of the spigot). Who's saying that and why are they saying it?

Mark said: It's from our geochemist because I gave him an email and asked him about this question and he said what you're getting when you sample the water out of the spigot will be similar to what you get down deep.

Erich said: This guy is paid by you.

Dave said: Yes.

Mark said: Yes.

Dave said: If you had an independent geochemist it might be different.

Erich said: If you want me to do it, give me a steel pipe and I'll do it.

Dave said: Get the experts on the subject to the meeting.

Tim said: Who would you want to come to the meeting?

Dave said: The bloody geochemist bruv, he'd be the one to bloody talk to.

Tim said: The one that you're saying is being paid off?

Erich said: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Dave said: It's all going to be Oceana Gold shirts isn't it bruv.

Tim said: So, is that do-able? Is the geochemist here or overseas?

Erich said: This is the third time that we ask for this to be measured, the sludge, yes, the third time.

Glenis said: Is there a reason why those results are from 2011?

Mark said: To represent what it was in the middle of the dam. That's why I picked these dates. But, we actually haven't been doing sampling at the spigot for a few years now. We are not required to. But, that's why I picked 2011 because Erich wanted to know the middle of the dam. The dam is about 23 years old so this is sort of in the middle.

Glenis said: So, you are saying you don't do those tests any longer?

Mark said: The mill does do testing for their own purposes but this is actually when you're at the dam itself. So, the mill is testing it before it goes up there so they've got a good idea what's in it as well.

Tim said: So, Mark I think at one of the meetings it was explained that that's not tested anymore because it got down to levels where there was no requirement to test it. It was deemed to be safe and therefore you wouldn't need to test it. Did I hear that correctly?

Erich said: No, not really.

Kyle said: I think it's a different mechanism for testing which we explained in one of the previous meetings but Erich wanted more where we test what we chased through as a representative of what leaches through as a representation of what is in there.

Glenis said: Was that due to a change in resource consent that testing changed?

Mark said: No, not that I'm aware of. We test the tailings every month from our department but that's to just see what the cyanide levels are and also there's a bunch of things to tell you whether the material is alkaline or acidic basically. We want to know that for when we get to the top and you cover the dam and you want to know what that surface is like because ideally you don't want the pH to start dropping in this sort of material.

Tim said: So, there's been a request for somebody, and Dave you are talking about the geochemist, to come and answer questions and I'm wondering whether that's practical and whether that helps us? Do you want the geochemist to talk to us or do you want to hear from the regional council?

Mark said: We don't need to report these results to regional council but we do have other reports where we show what is coming out underneath in that water. That is reported to council and is peer reviewed as well.



Dave said: Yeah, but that will be sent to the water treatment plant and then stuck in the river so you'd have to test that anyway.

Mark said: Yes.

Tim said: Does that help then, Dave, if that gets tested?

Dave said: It's not me that's really got the issue, it's my man here (Erich). I'm just saying... look my argument is, you've got experts in the field, why have they not come along to explain it to us? I asked Kyle to invite the new general manager. I don't see him here. It goes to show he doesn't give a shit about the people of Waihi.

**Post-meeting answer:**

*Erich, with Dave's support, has asked at this meeting and previous meetings about the content of TSF1 and TSF1A. After this (9 March 2023) Tim asked Oceana Gold about the best way to get a clear and reliable answer to this question. Oceana Gold have said that drilling a hole in the centre of either TSF would not be a safe thing to do and would not provide results that are any more reliable than the testing that has been undertaken previously through sampling and analysing the leachate (fluid that comes out of the bottom of each TSF). To resolve Erich's concern, the Oceana Gold environmental team will contact the Principal Consents Planner at Waikato Regional Council and the agreed independent Peer Reviewer and ask if they are able to provide Tim with answers to the following questions:*

- *Is testing of the leachate from each TSF a reliable way of determining the content of the TSFs?*
- *Will it identify all of the content of each TSF including heavy metals such as lead?*
- *Would obtaining a core sample from each TSF be a better mechanism?*
- *What is the content of each TSF?*
- *Is there any cause for concern?*

*When Tim receives these answers, he will circulate them to regular meeting attendees and ask for any questions arising that we can address at the next CEPA/Martha meeting. (See process change below about making sure we have questions before the next meeting so the answers are available).*

Brian said: Just a quick explanation for us non-mining people on what a spigot is.

Mark said: A plastic tube with some holes in it.

(If you look at the photograph in the slide above) this is the main tailings line that comes up there, it comes around here all the way from down at the mill, across the river, along the road, up the hill, it comes around here and then they tap into this. It's just like a big plastic pipe and they tap into it and then there's one spigot so they can distribute the tailings evenly around the dam so it's not just all building up in one place. You move the spigots and open and close them.

Martin said: Just one clarification about this tailings storage in the water. Surely that's the whole idea of the dam – all the sediment sinks to the bottom and the rubbish stays there doesn't it? The clean water comes out.

Mark said: It still filters through that material as well. When it rains it comes down and through and out.

Martin said: Yeah, so it collects all the rubbish and stays in the dam and the clean water comes out.

Mark said: No, the water still has contaminants in it.

Martin said: Yeah okay, but the idea of the dam is to collect all the rubbish and the sediment and stuff which is what you're saying is in there. So, it's doing its job. So, what's the problem?

Mark said: Yes.

Glenis said: Talking about the tailings dam, do you have a plan, or an emergency management plan, should the absolute worst thing happen?

Mark said: Yes, we have a TSF emergency action plan which is required when you've got tailings dams like this. It has different scenarios within it that could occur and what the responses should be. We have trialled the plan and we rehearse.

Glenis said: How do you let the community know that there's been a breach of some sort?

Mark said: I'm not too sure what's in the plan itself but it must be in there that when it gets to a certain stage, and of course you'd be alerting the regulators.

Tim said: Glenis, can we check on that question about alerting the public and make it a post-meeting answer?

Glenis said: Yes, that would be good.

Erich said: What will you do when one of the dams breaks? How do you close it up? You can't. Not with 20 million cubic metres of water. You can't. So then, bye bye Waihi.

Mark said: It depends on each individual situation. The Mount Polley TSF in Canada was fixed up and they're using it again.

Erich said: And in the Philippines they didn't get it eh?

Mark said: That was Marcopper which was an open pit like Martha that had closed and they had a pipe coming out of it and they were draining the water through the pipe and then they decided to use it as a tailings dam and concreted it and .....

Glenis said: One of our sons is at Koolan Island (in Australia) and they had a breach there while he was working in the pit there and he sent video of the wall breaking into the pit in Koolan Island.

Mark said: These things have certainly happened around the globe but it hasn't happened here and we have a lot of monitoring, checks, reassurance and annual reviews in place to make sure nothing like that happens.

Donna said: With a lot of those breaches, their tailings dams are made out of tailings fines so the walls are made out of that fine, fine material whereas ours is made of rock.

Mark said: Yes, one tailings dam is not built like another. We are talking about very, very different things.

Tim said: We've undertaken to put into the minutes information about what public notification would occur if there was a risk of the dam breaching. Is there other information like a summary of the safety protocols that we could add to the minutes that would help to reassure people that it is planned for and protected?

Mark said: Yes, definitely.

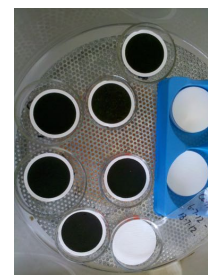
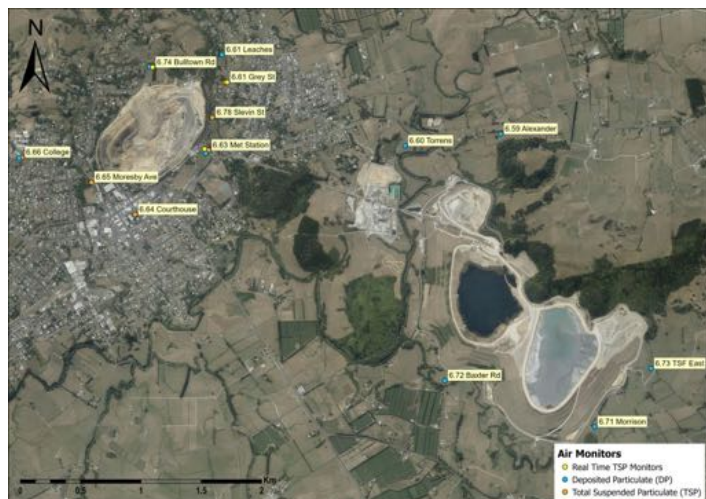
***Post-meeting answer:***

*Oceana Gold Waihi has an internal Emergency Action Plan for the Tailings Storage Facilities. A Summary of Emergency Response Process described in this plan is as follows:*

- 1. Incident/event is identified and reported to Site Security.*
- 2. Site Security contact Site Engineer (or alternate).*
- 3. Site Engineer is responsible for classifying the incident:*
  - a) Level 1: Unusual event;*
  - b) Level 2: A potential emergency or dangerous situation has developed/is developing;*
  - c) Impoundment failure is imminent.*
- 4. Stakeholders are notified (a register of all contact names and telephone numbers is included in the plan). The Waikato Regional and Hauraki District Councils must also be notified as soon as practicable.*

## Air Quality

### Suspended and deposited particulate monitoring



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Mark said: At the last meeting in September, there were questions about air quality in Waihi and how we monitor it. Air quality is part of the Waikato Regional Council responsibility, they are the regulator. We monitor two types of dust. There's "suspended" which is the stuff that floats in the air that you can breathe in and then we also measure "deposited" which is the stuff that accumulates and falls on the ground. This is our monitoring network that we've had up and running for .....

Donna said: ... about 35 years.

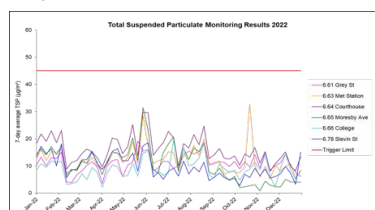
Mark said: Although the systems have changed over time and we've been in different locations before, it's essentially the same. We have these things here (see photographs in the slide above), this bottom one is a TSP, that's for the suspended monitors. Most of those are all around the pit and then these are called dust buckets, they collect the settled dust and we've got those also around the pit and also out here around the tailings dams as well. Just to show you, this is a filter from in wintertime in Waihi and you can see how black it is and that's not from mining it's from people burning their fires. When there's been dust storms in Australia and all the bush fires and when we've had westerlies, it's blown across and our filters go orange because we're getting the dust from over in Aussie.

Donna said: And when Ruapehu erupted we got ash in the buckets.

Erich said: Do you test it on your vents?

## Air Quality Results

2022



	Total suspended particulate	Deposited particulate
Sample period	7-day average	30-day average
Unit of measure	µg/m³	g/m²/month
OGNZL trigger level	45	4

Waihi comparison - Paeroa and Katikati 2013

	Total Suspended Particulate (µg/m³)		
	Katikati (Jan-Sep)	Paeroa (Jan-Sep)	All Routine Waihi Monitors (Jan-Sep)
Minimum	3.4	1.3	1.3
Maximum	31.6	30.0	29.3
Average	15.1	11.9	10.2

	Deposited Particulate (mg/m²/day)		
	Katikati (Jan-Sep)	Paeroa (Jan-Sep)	All Routine Waihi Monitors (Jan-Sep)
Minimum	14.0	15.1	4.8
Maximum	239.0	54.0	106.1
Average	62.0	26.9	30.1

Mark said: These are our results for the air. These are our compliance limits here. These red lines are just showing you all these results, how we comply. We don't really have any dust issues at all. Even during Covid and everything, we kept all our monitors going. Also, we've done comparisons between Paeroa and Katikati. So, we put monitors out there for different periods and there's the results there. Generally the Katikati area is probably not the best out of the three towns from our results and Waihi and Paeroa seem to be fairly similar. So, you've got a minimum, maximum and average.

Erich said: Where is this measured? Is this on the vents?

Donna said: That's coming up next.

Mark said: This is for suspended and deposited dust. Does anybody else have questions about the data?

## Vent shaft monitoring results

2022



NZ Work Area Standards (WES)

CO - 20 ppm 8 hour average.

NO - 25 ppm 8 hour average.

NO<sub>2</sub> - 1 ppm 8 hour average.

Table 4 Oxides for Nitrogen and Carbon Monoxide, Morning blast			
	CO (ppm)	NO (ppm)	NO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)
Average	1.22	0.00	0.03
Maximum	5.00	0.00	0.30
Minimum	0.00	0.00	0.00

Table 5 Oxides for Nitrogen and Carbon Monoxide, Afternoon blast			
	CO (ppm)	NO (ppm)	NO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)
Average	1.28	0.00	0.09
Maximum	3.00	0.00	0.50
Minimum	0.00	0.00	0.00

Table 6 Oxides for Nitrogen and Carbon Monoxide, Evening blast			
	CO (ppm)	NO (ppm)	NO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)
Average	1.35	0.01	0.00
Maximum	4.00	1.00	0.20
Minimum	0.00	0.00	0.00

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Mark said: Talking about the vent, this is a photo where you can see some of the venting in the pit coming out. The vent shaft has been monitored before but they would normally look for things like carbon monoxide, nitrogen, oxide and nitrogen dioxide. So, things like carbon monoxide that can potentially harm you and are not good for health.

We also do a lot of monitoring on people when they are underground because obviously when you're putting people underground, I'm sure Patrick can back me up here, you don't want them to be falling unconscious or anything like that. So, they do a lot of monitoring to make sure that the levels of gases and things down there, if there are any, are okay to work in. The air itself gets quite diluted even right next to where a truck is working. By the time it gets out into that pit there is a lot of fresh air mixed with it.

So, (the health level for) carbon monoxide (is) 20 (for 8 hours' exposure) and on the vent, with the carbon monoxide results, the highest we got was a 5. For nitrogen oxide, the highest result we got was a 1 and that one can be 25 (for eight hours) and nitrogen dioxide, the highest result we got was 0.5 and for eight hours' exposure, the limit is 1. So, that's your work area standards, it is mainly warm air and that's why you can see quite a lot of steam. It is quite visible but the material that's in it is harmless.

Tim said: Why can you see it like that? Is that because there's dust in it or because there's moisture in it?

Mark said: Moisture.

Brian said: When's the best time to see it like that?

Mark said: Morning is a good time and in winter it might just hang around a bit too, if you get those inversions happening.

Glenis said: When did you turn the vent on Union Hill off?

Mark said: It's still running. Union Hill, Trio.

Glenis said: At the last meeting Dave talked about walking around on Union Hill and how dirty it was around the vent. We were told once again that it is just moisture but we've seen the stuff that comes out of the vent and the dirt around there. There were people up there cleaning around that area after Dave mentioned how messy it was, then we noticed the noise stopped from the vent and there's no noise from that vent.

Patrick said: That's correct, we do repairs. Periodically we clean the fans as well. They build up material and to manage the vibration and the bearings on the fans, it's pretty complicated to change out bearings.

Dave said: What's the dirt on the fans if it's not dirty? Why do you have to clean them?

Patrick said: Just an accumulation of materials.

Dave said: Like diesel fumes and stuff from the bidders and crap? So, yes, technically the mine was correct, what we're seeing is steam but there's pollutants coming out as well. There's got to be bro. It ain't safe.

Erich said: That is gas.

Dave said: If the mine wasn't there it would be a hell of a lot safer, wouldn't it? Are there diesel fumes coming out of the vents?

Patrick said: Dave, we use diesel equipment underground so, naturally, they emit diesel and it comes out of a primary ventilation.

Dave said: And see we've been told it's just steam bro but it's not just steam bro.

Glenis said: Kit Wilson regularly would say it is just steam. On Union Hill, that vent has been off for quite some time. We've walked up there and checked and taken photographs and there is no noise. You can hear rain drops but you can't hear the vent.

Patrick said: That's correct, we've turned it off at the moment. We'll turn it on depending on the demand underground. We commissioned the two primary fans around this time last year in what we call the 920. So, they're the ones that ventilate into the open pit. They are our primary ventilation fans.

Brian said: Is there two vents in the pit?

Patrick said: There's two portals that head into the pit. One is a fresh air intake and one's out.

Glenis said: So, do you have like a date it got turned off and why? When will the vent go back on?

Patrick said: It got turned off because we don't need it. We were not working in the area and if we can manage without it we turn it off. As the mine changes the ventilation demand changes. We have adjustable drives on our fans to enable them to turn up, to turn down, because running them costs a bucket of money. Each of those fans is driven by 700kw motors. At the present time, we don't need to run the Trio fans and so we aren't running the Trio fans. If we don't have to, we'll try and manage not to because that's in the interest of our cost savings as well.

Brian said: It's in the interests of the local neighbourhood too because that constant hum 24 hours gets you like tinnitus.

Glenis said: Do you have a date it got turned off?

Patrick said: Not off the top of my head sorry. I do a dozen different things.

Glenis said: Can we sort of get an answer to when it was turned off? So we can get an idea of how long because we haven't heard it for a long time, basically since not that long after the last meeting.

Tim said: Let's make that a post meeting answer.

***Post-meeting answer:***

*The fan was turned off on 13/01/2023 at 10:15am and back on 26/04/2023 at 10:30am.*

Lee Anderson said: Did you actually say 700kw fan?

Patrick said: Yes, two of them and we operate them at around 320m<sup>3</sup> to 360m<sup>3</sup> per second so they're pretty substantial fans and a substantial power demand. It was a project that I did last year and it was quite a lot of fun but logistically quite difficult as well because they're substantial structures to get underground.

Dave said: So, what's going in is coming out at the same rate.

Patrick said: Correct.

Dave said: So, of course those are going to be pretty low aren't they? It's pretty watered down. That's a hell of a lot of air per second isn't it?

Patrick said: Yes. So, we do that for the ventilation requirements in the mine, for the regulations.

Dave said: I could fill the bath and put a little drop of bloody anything in it and they'd be low readings but it's still a shit-load of diesel fumes isn't it?

Erich said: Where is this measured?

Mark said: This was measured at the Favona vent shaft, the Favona vent stack.

Donna said: It's up the end of Barry Road.

Mark said: (Looking at the map on the wall) that was the first vent shaft put in for the Favona mine over here, then you've got the Trio one here.

Glenis said: So, when those readings were taken, was that vent actually operational?

Mark said: We haven't been required to do additional tests since we did those ones because the levels were so low the regional council said (we didn't need to) ... and our equipment hasn't changed. If anything, the equipment is getting better and more efficient and we don't have more of anything, it's pretty much the same number.

Glenis said: So, you don't have any current tests of any current vent?

Mark said: No, it's based off those older results.

Tim said: Do you know roughly when those were Mark?

Mark said: Something like 2008 or 2009. We haven't been required to do it (since then) because the results were so low.

Erich said: We asked you at the last meeting.

Mark said: The tests are done by Watercare, they normally do that, it's over a long period, it's quite complicated, you're measuring gas, it's not a ...

Erich said: So, what we see there (on the "Vent shaft monitoring results" table on the slide above) it's all gas, there's no dust. We're asking for dust. Actually it's in the minutes.

Mark said: If there was dust it would be turning up in these results.

Erich said: No, out of the vents, where is the dust? For breathing it's very important.

Tim said: If the testing sites are all around the area and they are .....

Erich [interrupted and said]: They are not.

Donna said: They are.

Erich said: On the vent at Union Hill? No.

Donna said: No, but there's one not far from it.

Glenis said: If it is old data how do we know what is actually coming in the air? Were you underground in 2008?

Mark said: Yes, we were working the Favona mine.

Glenis said: Because if you think about how much the mines have expanded between 2008 and now and the sheer difference that would be coming out of vents. It's not just dust it puts out, it's diesel, it's explosives, you only have to look up what comes out of a vent in a gold mine and it shows you.

Mark said: I think that's why these nitrogen results are in there. We sampled after blasting, after blasting nitrogen you might get some nitrogen.

Erich said: After blasting you've got also more dust. Show me the results for dust on there (PowerPoint slide).

Mark said: It's tested in the community because that's where it might have an effect.

Tim said: Glenis asked about the age of the data. If that's 2013 data, what's the level of confidence that?

Mark said: That's when we did the comparison in 2013. These are last year's results, we don't need to do it again.

Donna said: These air quality results are from 2022.

Erich said: Yeah, what dust is it?

Mark said: Yeah, that's the "deposited" and that's the "suspended" from all these different monitors. Dust can be a mixture of all sorts of things. It can be pollen, it can be sediment, it can be organic matter ...

Erich said: Metals maybe .....?

Mark said: Yes.

Tim said: As I understand it there are levels that are set. If it's air then it's the regional council that sets those levels that are safe for humans. So, you've got a bunch of questions about whether in fact these readings are accurate and correct and whether humans are being protected. Isn't that a question for the regional council?

Glenis said: I've asked that question of them many times.

Mark said: All the personnel underground are being tested all the time for health and safety because we don't want our workers to get sick. If anybody was going to be getting affected by the fumes it would be the people working underground because they're working in it for 12-hour shifts. So, if nothing is happening in there and it gets very diluted by the time it goes out into the environment...

Tim said: What happens when you ask council, Glenis?

Glenis said: Environment Waikato said that they no longer monitor Waihi but they wouldn't give me an answer why. They haven't done it for years. The closest they do to monitoring air quality in this region is Thames.

Mark said: I'm not exactly sure of the reason why but they did have a monitor right next to one of our monitors and they were monitoring for dust and silica and things like that and as I understand it they took it away because the results were so low.

Glenis said: What year was that?

Mark said: 2011, something like that. They had it on Grey Street. It was a big boxy unit.

Glenis said: I think that's possibly an issue where, in those years, there was nowhere near the level of mining that has occurred from then on.

Mark said: It was right next to the open pit.

Donna said: Actually, it was right next to Martha, the working open pit at the time.

Glenis said: It's an underground mine with vents that push it up from a smaller opening like a chimney stack.

Tim said: You are saying there's a difference between an underground mine and the pit?



Donna said: The silica monitoring was done just up there where Mark's pointing to, right next to our own air monitor. It was there for a couple of years.

Mark said: It showed that we had some of the lowest levels in the Waikato, comparing different towns in the Waikato and of course the worst town is Hamilton because they've got a lot more traffic.

Glenis said: I'm actually under a heart specialist and I've had trouble breathing sort of the last five to six years and he was absolutely shocked that there's a vent in the vicinity.

Tim said: Does he know what's coming out of the vent?

Glenis said: He's from Canada and he'd never heard of a vent being in an area that's close to residences. Over progressive years I've had trouble breathing.

Erich said: There was a discussion in the last meeting about what comes out of the vent, it is written here (pointing at the last meeting minutes).

Tim said: That is what we are doing now – this is the slide on dust.

Mark said: There are three slides, this is what comes out of the vent.

Dave said: Not that specific vent though.

Mark said: (The vent itself) hasn't been monitored and we don't have results for it.

Dave and Erich said: Go out and do it.

Kyle said: We've done monitoring as per what's required of us by the regional council ... you might need to reach out to the regional council if you're not happy with the levels that have been set through the regional council's consenting process. We're operating within the parameters that are set for us. (If you are not happy with that then) the conversation might need to be had with them.

Tim said: The question I have is there's a couple of areas now that have come up and what I'm concerned about is that people are ... without the scientific background necessarily, worried there are things happening for them that might be having a detrimental effect and whether those questions can be answered. I am wondering whether the people in charge of monitoring for the regional council can come to the next meeting and address those questions. What do you think?

Erich and Dave said: Another six months.

Kyle said: We also operate the shop, which is open. We also have an 0800 number which can be contactable 24/7. We've got an info email address we can be contacted on. You do not have to wait six months to come to this meeting to get answers from us. We're happy to have a conversation with you in the street. All of these mechanisms are available for you to raise concerns, have conversations and we can come back to you. Don't ever feel that you have to wait for the next six monthly meeting to come and raise things with us, we're more than happy to talk.

Dave said: We want answers as a collective not individually. This is my argument. It's divide and conquer. We're all coming here, I'm sure everyone here would come back here in two weeks' time if you had the answer.

Tim said: Does everybody have the same issue with availability ...? (interrupted)

Dave said: And the shop's open 3.5 hours a day. Why should working people if they work in fricking Tauranga take a day off work to get the answer for this meeting which is part of your consents.

Tim said: I'm going to pick up on this at the end of the meeting when we're talking about meeting process. I will pick up on how the information gets presented back to satisfy the concerns at end of this meeting.

Bill said: When I was in Christchurch I had asthma almost every day, using an inhaler. Since I've been in Waihi, not so. I tell you, I'd be the first one to know if the air was not good.

***Post-meeting answer:***

*Erich and Glenis have expressed concerns about what is being released from the vents. In response to those questions Mark has provided monitoring results. To get clear, independent and reliable answers*

*to these, Oceana Gold will contact the Principal Consents Planner at Waikato Regional Council and the agreed independent Peer Reviewer and ask if they are able to provide Tim with answers to the following questions:*

- *Is the current testing regime sufficient to determine exactly what is being released into the air from the vent shafts?*
- *Why isn't testing conducted at the vent shaft itself?*
- *Does current testing identify all of the content of the air, gas and solids coming out of each vent?*
- *Would testing at the vent shaft be a better mechanism?*
- *What is the content of the air/gas/suspended solids from the vents (including as a result of diesel fumes and blasting detonation)?*
- *Is there any cause for concern in terms of human safety from discharge from the vents?*

*When Tim receives these answers, he will circulate them to regular meeting attendees and ask for any questions arising that we can address at the next CEPA/Martha meeting. (See process change below about making sure we have questions before the next meeting so the answers are available).*

Glenis said: With the vents you talk about the power that the fans use and I know that they use a considerable amount of power. Are you currently getting power upgrades for future vents? Because there's been a heck of a lot of work going on at the power station that goes out towards the beach on the main road there. There's been a lot of work and cables being laid on the farmland by the tailings and all of those areas and there's been a huge amount of upgrade from Waikino right through.

Mark said: I think it's because that system supply line has been pretty unreliable in previous years. Transpower are probably doing an upgrade.

Glenis said: I did have a document that I downloaded from the Oceana Gold corporate site a few years ago that talked about a \$12 million expenditure with Powerco for Oceana Gold to upgrade the power from Waikino through to the plant. That document disappeared after I brought it up to council. But I do have the 248-page document that details the different things that were going to happen and one of them was power upgrades, people were asking questions about why suddenly the power ... and so I'm just wondering if that's got anything to do with the future?

Leigh Robcke said: I know that some consultants have been talking to council. I think Petersen is the name of the company, but they are looking at ... they're doing work for I think Powerco to look at a new line and it's basically from Waikino through the back road, on road reserve ... underground thrusting. The reason is there's been quite a lot of growth around Waihi so the power supply needs an upgrade and also it feeds Waihi Beach as well so in the peak of summer when you get all the people at Waihi Beach I think there is limited supply so they are trying to address that.

Glenis said: I think this document sort of mentioned that and sort of said how basically over the summer because of the amount of visitors it meant that the plant had to close down because there wasn't enough power for the whole of Coromandel and the mines. So, that's why the upgrade was happening and I was just wondering is that's what's happening now with the power?

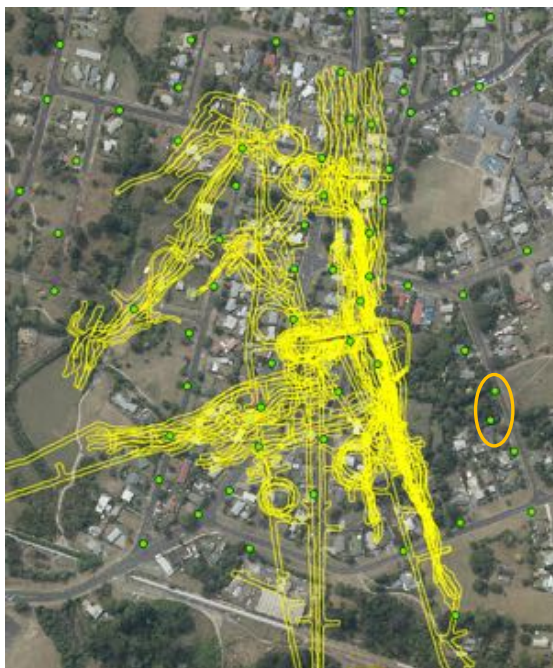
Leigh Robcke said: They haven't started the upgrade yet but they're certainly doing the planning. They've been talking to us for about six months. I'm not directly involved ...

Glenis said: It said in the document it was Powerco and it was a \$12 to \$13 million investment to upgrade the power.

## Correnso/SUPA

### Settlement

- Spring survey conducted. Report submitted to HDC & WRC
- No significant settlement issues detected for Correnso/SUPA.
- Two minor anomalous tilt results; settlement marks noted as being adjacent to watercourse and potentially disturbed/drainage affected. Negligible change since May 2020 survey.



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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

OCEANA GOLD

Mark said: Just moving onto the final bit of the environmental monitoring data we've got, it's just around settlement around the underground mines. So, we've got Martha, I've shown this slide before, there's been no change, there's no additional workings. These two marks here (see ellipse on photo above) are still showing a bit of movement.

Donna said: Bank Street reserve.

Mark said: There was a drain there and someone freed up the drain because the ground was saturated and it caused it to settle because now you get the water flow. That one has been there for a while.

Mark said: It's not actually over workings or anything. The other one is around Martha. Those workings there, there's the markers, those green dots and we haven't had any change on those either. Every six months all that information goes into a report to HDC and their geotechnical expert looks and if there's any queries they come back to us.

## Project Martha

### Settlement

- No significant settlement issues detected for Project Martha
- Negligible change since May 2020 survey.



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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

OCEANA GOLD

Brian said: That includes up the top of Seddon Street in front of the pumphouse where there's always movement on the road?

Mark said: Yeah, there is there, there's close to 400 of those little settlement marks all over Waihi, going right out to the road to Whangamata.

Brian said: And no movement up there either?

Mark said: No. Sometimes they get disturbed. You can drive over one with a truck and it can make it settle down a bit. So, every time when he measures them, if it's got any movement on the pin, then he looks into it a bit closer and see why it has done this.

## Notification of Blasts

The latest blast times and locations are available daily on our website: [www.waihigold.co.nz](http://www.waihigold.co.nz)

Production blasting is scheduled between 1.30 – 2.30pm (note: a blast may occasionally be delayed under specific circumstances).

Underground Development blasts may still occur, and due to their small size, will not be notified. These are smaller than production blasts and will occur between:

7.00am – 8.00am

7.00pm – 8.00pm

1.30pm – 2.30pm

Please contact us on 0800 924 444 if you would like to receive text or email notifications.

In-home blast notification devices can also be provided to residents.

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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

WAIHI GOLD

Kyle said: We have this slide every six months but essentially it's just to say we're still endeavouring to blast within our blast windows, 7-8, 7-8 and 1.30-2.30 and we're still offering notification of blast times if you'd like to have it. So, Jeannine and Donna can catch up with you after this if you want to get a blast notification device or a text before we blast or you can ring the number and they will organise something for you.

Donna said: Or we can phone you on a landline.

[Erich pointed out that there has been a change to the blast times, from 1.30pm-2.30pm rather than 1-2pm in the last minutes.]

Kyle said: It was correcting an incorrect time noted in the PowerPoint for the last meeting.

Donna said: Yes, I've corrected that.

## Community

### AEP Payments

For the July – December 2022 payment period, 334 properties qualified for an AEP payment.

These payments totalled \$204,928.34

A breakdown of these payments are:

- 305 properties in the Project Martha area qualified for a payment, totalling \$197,678.34
- 29 properties in the Correnso Project area qualified for a payment, totalling \$7250.00

We are still in the process of signing up new properties that have qualified for a payment for the first time in the Project Martha area.

Since 2007 there have been 8,962 payments made, totalling \$5,786,138.87.

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INNOVATION PERFORMANCE GROWTH

WAIHI GOLD

Jeannine said: With the AEP, we've just processed the July to December 2022 period and there were 334 properties that qualified for the AEP, that's the payments for the blasting, for the vibration for the underground mine and those payments totalled \$204,928.34. The breakdown of those was 305 properties in the MUG area, the Project Martha area which is Martha underground and the Rex area and there were 29 properties in the Correnso area that qualified for the AEP. The AEP has not been paid yet, they are running a bit behind in the accounts. That should be paid tomorrow for those that are receiving the AEP.

Erich said: Yeah this 29 properties at Correnso. Where are they? Which streets?

Jeannine said: Some of them were Kenny Street and some were Mataura Road.

Erich said: There was nothing (noted) on the blast sheets.

Jeannine said: Those that received the AEP before and didn't receive it this time should have got a letter.

Erich and Helga said: Yes.

## **General questions and discussion**

### **Plan change application:**

Glenis said: Hauraki District Council, on their website about mining, say Oceana Gold has made a private application for proposed plan change 6 and that that information is available through Oceana Gold's website. They have the link but I can't find the information.

Leigh Robcke said: Generally, we don't make the information available because we've asked for further information so the application could change so it may end up being something different than what's actually ... you know, if we put it on our website it may be changed which creates confusion. HDC has asked for quite a bit of further information. We received the application in about June last year, we asked for further information and we're still waiting so it's supposed to be coming back in the next little while, in the next few weeks anyway.

Tim said: Okay, and it's not a live application until council accepts it?

Leigh Robcke said: Yeah, it has to go through the council process to accept it or reject it or modify it. So, until we get to that stage it's a draft basically.

Glenis said: Can I suggest that the council takes that link to Oceana Gold off then because they basically say if you want to know more ask Oceana Gold.

Kyle said: Just to be clear, it's Martha Mineral Zone plan change. Before we could ever apply for extending Martha pit we would have to change the Martha Mineral Zone, the area that open pit mining can occur as defined within the district plan. There is a fact sheet on the website describing that, it's been in the paper a couple of times last year. The actual application is not there but there is information about it and I can happily share that with you. I'm sure Oceana Gold fully expects that when we do get around to answering the RFIs in council's review it will be publicly notified so everyone will have an opportunity to have a say on it.

Erich said: And then there will be a hearing also.

Kyle said: Yes, so the Martha Mineral Zone, should the plan change go through, doesn't allow any physical mining. You'd still have to come back and apply for a resource consent but to allow for the expanded Martha pit we've got to expand the Martha Mineral Zone within the district plan first.

### **Oceana Gold sponsorship:**

Helga said: Why does a Whangamata club get money from the Oceana mine?

Jeannine said: It is part of our sponsorship, donations.

Kyle said: Oceana Gold's got a sponsorship and donations mechanism, the criteria of which is on our website. Anyone can apply for it. We generally try and give sponsorship donations to the areas of interest and influence and with WKP there's more interest in Whangamata than previously, so it's not outside the realms of where we should be distributing some funds. Anyone can apply. Part of the criteria for sponsorship or donations in our external affairs social performance standards is we have to be transparent about where the money is allocated, hence why it goes in the paper every month ...

Dave said: ... and also the teacher for the Central School. I thought we discussed that was because of the blasting and the kids were going crazy and you were looking at funding an extra teacher to look after the kids. That ain't a donation to the community, that's looking after your own back, isn't it? All I'm saying is we get told in a meeting, "Oh we're looking at funding a teacher" because we're shaking the school and the kids are getting all freaked out and then it's part of the donations for the community.

Kyle said: Yes, that's where it went, it was part of our sponsorship and donations and we declared that along with our standards. It's not part of our compensation, it was not prescribed in the consent condition to do it, it was put forward as sponsorship and donation and that's why it was listed as one.

Jeanine said: They applied like everybody else.

#### **Gate on Pit Rim Walkway:**

Helga said: The Pit Rim Walkway gets maintained by Oceana Gold. Why don't the gates get maintained? The gates where the gatehouse also is from Kenny Street are broken.

Kyle said: Thank you. I'm glad you raised it so we can look into it.

#### **Retaining work behind Salvation Army:**

Glenis said: There's a lot of work going on behind the Salvation Army hall, huge big piles. What's that about?

Kyle said: As I understand it, they're building a new area for their food-bank. Part of that is that they have to make sure that they build a retaining wall to build that so the wall is secure.

Glenis said: So, is the church paying for that work?

Kyle said: I know that we purchased a piece of land from them. I will have to look into it and put the answer in the minutes.

Glenis said: Just I want to know what it is, what it's for. I figured with that level of size of pylons and the level of work that's happening there, it wasn't going to be them. So, it's got nothing to do with Oceana Gold?

Kyle said: The building of the food-bank is their building. We may have contributed through how we did the property purchase but in terms of what they're physically doing there, you'd have to ask them.

Brian said: That goes up to the house on top?

Kyle said: Correct, yes. I would have to go away and look, so please don't quote me on this as being in stone, but it's an empty section up the back as part of the ...

Glenis said: That's the area I'm talking about.

Kyle said: So, the retaining wall is to retain that piece of land so they can build their food-bank, which is being done by the Salvation Army.

Erich said: You leave it like this?

Kyle said: The Salvation Army is constructing the retaining walls so they can put a new building there as their food-bank. Can I say one thing? I appreciate I was vague on the Salvation Army. I will find out for you what the deal is.

Glenis said: Thank you.

#### **Post-meeting answer:**

- *Oceana Gold purchased the piece of land highlighted below from the Salvation Army.*
- *The Salvation Army is constructing a retaining wall on the boundary to provide extra space at the rear of its building (to allow for parking/the construction of a food-bank).*
- *The Salvation Army is responsible for the consenting of the structure, its construction and paying for its installation. It is our understanding that the funds Ocean Gold provided in the property purchase are being utilised by the Salvation Army for that purpose.*





### **Power circuits:**

Lee Anderson said: Some time ago I met a lonely soul uptown all the way from Auckland and he stated that he was working on the Waikino substation on a major upgrade they were doing with four major circuits – Waihi, Paeroa, one to the mine and he said there's a fourth circuit there and it's all ready to go, transformer and everything there but it's not actually wired up yet and that was to the Golden Cross mine. Are you guys going to get into the Golden Cross mine?

Kyle said: You can never say never. It's not on our immediate plans. I haven't heard any conversations or anything to say that is something we would want to do. I think we would want to stay clear of it.

Lee Anderson said: Well it wouldn't have anything to do with the sludge pit, you truck it out and chuck it in Waihi's pit.

### **Hazard Street:**

Glenis said: When Hazard Street gets shortened because of the mine layback, how will you work that with the roads in town like Seddon Street?

Kyle said: I think it's the Martha open pit project. There would be a study that would need to be done. I imagine that will be kicked off at some point but it's currently on hold with more focus on the Waihi North project.

Tim said: Is there likely to be more information available from the shop? Can Glenis go there and ask?

Kyle said: There will be a description of what's intended to be planned but we're not progressing the resource consent application at this stage.

Glenis said: It's just that the town is looking at spending \$1.2 million on road upgrades in the next couple of years in the CBD and it just seems a bit silly for the town and the ratepayers to be paying that kind of money at that level out there if there's going to be major works in Hazard Street and how does that work happen?

Leigh Robcke said: I understand that there have been some conversations about trying to align that work with what the mine might do but ultimately they haven't got consent to extend the pit. So, there's two steps to go. The Martha Mineral Zone extension and then a resource consent. I'm sure there are some designs but the council is not stupid in terms of going and spending a whole lot of money that doesn't need to be spent.

### **Transport of toilets:**

Erich said: Will you supply us with a picture or a short video of how you bring the toilets out of the DoC land? I've never seen it.

Kyle said: We fly them out, dangling from a helicopter as far as I understand it.

Donna said: Recently, about two weeks ago, we did some maintenance on our camp site at WKP and we removed our drill rig and the toilets and a bit of maintenance and clean-up there and that was flown into the end of Willows Road and then trucked out. So, that will be why you didn't see it under the helicopter.



Dave said: So, there's no dunnies there now?

Donna said: They are back there now. Normally we fly them from Golden Cross, up the Golden Cross road, we have a pad at a farm there but we haven't been able to use that since Cyclone Gabriel because of the slips and there's still trees across the road there so that's why we used the landing site at Willows Road.

Brian said: Just a general question. With all the helicopters going at the moment, is this going to become the norm with Wharekirauponga and everything going backwards and forwards?

Kyle said: Normally we'd be driving up to Golden Cross and flying but the road's blown out so the frequency appears more but we're probably not going to be flying as much it's just different locations.

### **Meeting process:**

Tim said: I want to talk about the meetings and the information that is not meeting your needs because this is getting painful for everybody right? It's painful for you and it's a point of frustration for the meeting and, I want to say this out loud too, I actually worry that it might be off-putting for some of the people who don't have the same concerns that you have to listen to the arguing about whether the question has been answered or not. So, I want to try and find a way that we actually get these answers so that the meetings can be informative and satisfying and peaceable.

(From today's meeting): If you give us some questions now, we give them to the regional council, we'll put the answers in the minutes, we'll also invite a regional council person to the next meeting to answer those questions. What do you think, Erich?

Erich said: We asked one-and-a-half years ago for samples from the sludge in the ponds. We didn't get it.

Tim said: Can I answer that for a second? What I want to say is the company representatives have explained why they do not think that is necessary for scientific reasons (that the testing of the water that goes through the tailings provides the answers) but it does not satisfy you.

Erich said: No (it doesn't satisfy me).

Tim said: So, if the mining company does the next thing, (get more information and present it to you) how do they know that it's going to satisfy you then? You could say, "It's a person paid by the mining company" (suggesting they can't be trusted) so why would they spend thousands of dollars getting those samples ...?

Erich said: Get the samples to an independent testing lab.

Tim said: And then will there be a challenge about whether they're accurate samples or not?

Dave said: But that's our right to challenge it, that's what the meeting's for isn't it? For us to challenge.

Erich said: And the dust is the same.

Tim said: What I'm looking for Dave is an independent way of confirming the information that you need so that we don't have to go through an argument about whether it's valid information or not.

Dave said: I wasn't arguing, I was pretty reserved tonight I thought.

Erich said: The next meeting will be the same.

Tim said: So, what I'm offering Erich is that you give us the question, we'll give it to regional council, we'll get the answer out of regional council, that can be in the minutes and then we can invite regional council to come to the next meeting and speak to any questions or concerns that you have.

Erich said: Make sure they have got the answers.

Dave said: I'm sure when the council put these meetings in the conditions of the consent it was for the reason to alleviate the concern of the people of Waihi and at the moment we're not getting it. Bring at least the head of fuckin' geology or whatever to the meeting. Someone that knows what they're talking about, not, "I'll let you know in six months".

Tim said: Alright, so what I've got then is the two pieces of information ... so Erich this is for you ... but the two pieces of information that you're looking for are some surety about the contents of the tailings in the TSF ...

Erich said: Yes.

Tim said: ... you want to make sure that there's nothing in the centre of that sediment that is going to be poisonous to the town.

Erich said: Not in the centre, the first metre is enough.

Tim said: You just want to know what's in there? Why do you want to know what's in there?

Erich said: Then I can see if lead is in there or not.

Tim said: That then raises another question Erich of are you qualified then to say whether it's humanly safe levels of lead or do we need somebody else to ...

Erich said: I think so. I can read it up. Internet. Mr Google.

Tim said: We want certainty. I think, I'm really personally worried, that we are raising questions that are worrying some people without the scientific foundation to cause that worry.

Dave said: Yeah but then you've said let's tap off the information about if the tailings dam collapses and give it to everybody. I'm sure people would frickin worry about that too.

Tim said: But the answer to that is that that's a document that's been produced that's satisfied council.

Dave said: That's satisfied council and within permitted allowances and all that. We're not concerned with permitted allowances.

Tim said: What happens in these meetings is that you become the judge and jury about whether that's satisfactory information or not and yet you are not scientifically qualified to say so.

Dave said: I'm reasonably intelligent enough. If they come up with a valid argument and alleviate my concerns I'll sit and say, "Yeah bruv, you're right mate" because I've done it before.

Leigh Robcke said: I was going to say, if you're worried about the science, the regional council are pretty rigorous. They're independent, they're not actually paid by the company.

Dave said: I'm sure they are but see this is all just "within tolerances" and "within allowances" and you know we've got so many of these. If the mine wasn't there, the shit wouldn't be there at all would it?

Leigh Robcke said: When you have concerns, there's peer reviews, there's all sorts of things that go on, there's all these scientists sitting in Hamilton looking at results all the time and it costs a fortune for the company. But, if you have concerns next time there's a project then make a submission, raise these things and you'll get answers.

Glenis said: I'd just like to say that basically there are questions that I have that I'd like answered that I find very difficult to get an answer to at the time because there's not a person there that can answer me.

Tim said: That's at these meetings?

Glenis said: Yes, or they don't answer me or they tell me an answer that to me feels like spin and I don't need to feel like that. I don't want to feel like that. it makes me mistrustful.

Tim said: Would it help if you provided your questions before the meeting so that the company can make sure that they've got the answers? Would you be able to do that?

Glenis said: Yes definitely. Yeah, I'm happy to ... I mean I have some questions written down and I would have quite happily sent them so that you had time.

Kyle said: I think that's a fantastic idea.

Glenis said: We get a lot of questions from the public and we would send them through to say Kit Wilson or somebody like that so that he then had time to go and ask the expert and so that we could get a comprehensive answer rather than the staff at the time doesn't know, they can't answer that.

Tim said: So, questions in advance would be fantastic and we'll put that as a suggestion for everybody in the minutes. In terms of getting an answer to the tailing storage facility and the air discharge, what do you want us to do about that? Shall we chase up the regional council and get their experts to come and give us some answers?

Erich said: With facts.

Kyle said: I'd just say, remember this is a Hauraki District Council consent condition not Waikato Regional Council. It doesn't stop us asking them.

Leigh Robcke said: I think if you put the questions to them they'd answer them but whether or not they'd turn up at a meeting, I'm not sure.

Tim said: Alright, so how do we confirm that we've got the right questions that we're being asked? Are you and me going to talk on the phone Erich and you'll tell me exactly what you want to ask?

Erich said: No, you know. It's written in there. I want which dust is in there, on the vent, not which gas is in there. Gas I can analyse this.

Tim said: So, specifically dust in the vent and content of the top metre of the silt in the tailings storage facility?

Erich said: Correct.

Jeannine said: Which tailings storage facility?

Erich said: 1 and 1A. Both of them.

Tim said: Fantastic, we're there. We will put as much as we can in the minutes so that you don't have to wait long to be able to get your answers. And Kyle, you made the point that the shop's open if people have other questions that they want to go and follow up on. You don't have to wait six months.

Kyle said: And all those other mechanisms, phone call or email if you don't respond on the spot.

Glenis said: There have been ... like I've asked people the reason why they used to come to us to get us to ask the questions of the mine. Why couldn't they ask them themselves? They felt intimidated by it, it's that simple.

Tim said: Tell me what makes it intimidating for people to ask questions.

Glenis said: They felt that they would be talked about, that they might have been renting a house off the company, there's a whole raft of different reasons why people felt that they couldn't go in, sign in, they didn't like signing in and having to ... you know they wanted to be able to simply ask a question.

Tim said: So Glenis, do those people still approach you now? I'm just wondering though that if you got those questions asked of you then you could put those in your questions.

Glenis said: Sometimes on the street and things like that but we're not running Gold FM anymore. Well, I do and we used to be able to ask those questions on peoples' behalf once upon a time so that they didn't feel intimidated by the process and that's a thing I think, if you can understand Kyle, that people do feel that the process of having to go in and sign in that they were there or something like that becomes intimidating for them whereas they'd rather have a casual ... or somebody else ask on their behalf.

Kyle said: Yep I accept that. If you are having those conversations, feel free to bring those questions along. Feel free to tell them, if it is someone that does feel comfortable, to come and approach us through the shop. You don't have to sign in at the shop.

Donna said: Signing in was only during Covid.

Tim said: Wonderful, thanks everybody.

The meeting finished at 7.43pm.

**Next meeting: Thursday 7 September 2023 at 5.30pm  
(Combined CEPA/SUPA and Martha meeting)**

<b>Attendance register:</b>	
Peter Lush	Lee Anderson
Heather Ross	Elva Douglas
Martin Barber	Janette Callaghan
Maggie Ward	Dave Wellington
Erich and Helga Schmidt	Leigh Robcke
Jane Murray	Bill Thomson-Prosser
Brian and Glenis Gentil	Mike Beach
Kyle Welten	Patrick Slagter
Josh Smith	Mark Burroughs
Donna Fisher	Jeannine Wiki
Tim Clarke	Louise Fielden