



MEDIA STATEMENT

5 May 2025

OCEANAGOLD FAST-TRACK APPLICATION ACCEPTED FOR WAIHI NORTH PROJECT

OceanaGold has received confirmation that its application for the Waihi North Project under the Fast-track approvals process has been accepted as complete by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The application now proceeds to the appointment of an independent expert panel. The original consent application under the Resource Management Act 1991 will now be withdrawn. The full Fast-track application will be publicly available on the EPA website.

Alison Paul, OceanaGold's Senior Vice President for New Zealand Legal and Public Affairs, said "We are pleased to be an early applicant under the new consenting process through Fast-track, which streamlines permitting, while ensuring the same high environmental and social standards are met. While we are in the initial stages of the process, we believe in our project and OceanaGold's ability to continue to support economic growth, create high-paying jobs, generate royalties, support communities, and boost exports at the same time as making a positive contribution to the environment."

"We have always taken the view that we must maintain our current operating standards and continue to meet the expectations of our communities and of New Zealanders. We believe we have the expertise to do this; we can operate an underground mine that is not just productive – not just a source of jobs and an export-earner for New Zealand – but is also environmentally and socially responsible."

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Attribution: Alison Paul, OceanaGold's Senior Vice President for New Zealand Legal and Public Affairs

About the Waihi North Project

The Waihi North Project includes the proposed Wharekirauponga underground mine which OceanaGold expects to be fully permitted (subject to any appeals) under the Fast-track approvals process by the end of 2025. This timetable would allow the Company to commence decline and underground development work for the proposed underground mine in 2026. About NZ\$70 million of early works not requiring Fast-track approvals are planned for this year.

The Waihi North Project will both add to and extend the current operations at Waihi. A Pre-feasibility Study (PFS) released in December 2024 estimated expenditure of NZ\$3.4B over 15 years of combined current and future operations at Waihi. The Fast-track application, which in comparison to the PFS, also allows for targeted growth in the mineral resources at Wharekirauponga through ongoing exploratory drilling, targets a 10-year mine life at

Wharekirauponga Underground alone, with about NZ\$1B of capital expenditure, over NZ\$5B of export revenue and about 1000 jobs associated with the new project. About 80% of expenditure is expected to be spent in New Zealand and over 30% within the Hauraki District.

OceanaGold recognises the ecological value of the Wharekirauponga area, which is a key driver for the mine being underground and accessed by a tunnel from outside the Forest Park area. It is also why the Company has committed to a Biodiversity Project which is expected to result in a significant benefit for the environment – while underground, the mine provides jobs and contributes to the economy. OceanaGold's 35-year track record is a continued commitment to developing resources responsibly, ensuring that we balance economic benefits with environmental and community considerations.

Additional information about the Waihi North Project may be found here: <https://www.waihinorth.info/>

The full project application may be found here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/waihi-north>



Media contact:

Kit Wilson

OceanaGold (NZ) Ltd

Manager-Communication (NZ)

Mobile: 027 451 3407

Email: kit.wilson@oceanaqold.com