



## **MEDIA STATEMENT – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

25 November 2025

### **OCEANAGOLD ENCOURAGED BY FAST-TRACK PROVISIONAL APPROVAL FOR WAIHI NORTH PROJECT**

OceanaGold is encouraged by the Expert Panel's release of a draft decision indicating a provisional intention to grant approvals for the Waihi North Project through the Fast-track Approvals Act.

It is important to note that at this stage, a final decision has not yet been reached. The Expert Panel now will invite comment on the proposed conditions of consent from relevant parties. This includes OceanaGold as the applicant, local iwi, the District and Regional Councils, the Department of Conservation, and any other person or group who provided comments on the application.

The Expert Panel's final decision on the application has been set as being due on 18 December 2025.

Alison Paul, Senior Vice President, Legal and Public Affairs, says when OceanaGold acquired the Waihi mining operations in 2015, the Company made a commitment to the New Zealand Government to invest in extending the life of mining in Waihi.

"We look forward to making a significant contribution locally, regionally, and nationally. The project includes our commitment to enhancing biodiversity, including our significant contribution towards New Zealand's Predator-free programme with a focus on the Coromandel Peninsula."

"OceanaGold has a proven track record of working within a tight regulatory framework including controls relating to vibration, noise, dust, ground surface stability, flora and fauna, and water management. We recognise 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".

"OceanaGold's activities will 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."

"Mining is the most productive industry in the Hauraki region and in New Zealand. If the Expert Panel's final decision is to approve the Waihi North Project, we look forward to continuing to support local jobs, local businesses, and the regional and New Zealand economy".

Ms. Paul says that the Waihi North Project will add to and extend the current operations at Waihi. The new Wharekirauponga underground mine targets at least a 10-year mine life and would account for NZ\$1B of capital expenditure, over NZ\$5B of export revenue (conservatively estimated at half of the current gold price) and about 1,000 jobs associated with the project. About 80% of expenditure would be expected to be spent in New Zealand including over 30% within the Hauraki District.

-ENDS-

Attribution: Alison Paul, Senior Vice President, Legal and Public Affairs

Note for editors.

The full details of the application, including final conditions of consent and supporting technical information can be found here: <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects/waihi-north>

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