What is the Amenity Effect Programme?

The Amenity Effect Programme (AEP) is an arrangement between OceanaGold Waihi (OGL) and residents identified as experiencing some effect on amenity. In this context, "amenity" is defined as effects from vibration.

As a responsible miner, OGL recognises that the close proximity to a number of residential properties in the Waihi community can cause a perceived reduction in amenity, despite mining operations being within consent compliance limits.

How does the Amenity Effect Programme work?

OGL operates under very stringent limits on environmental effects imposed by its mining licence and resource consents. Consent limits are designed to be protective of amenity for most of the Waihi community for most of the time.

The qualifying criteria for the AEP payments has trigger levels set at well below the consent conditions, but even so, you may still feel vibration from the operations and not qualify. Feeling vibration does not necessarily mean there is a loss of amenity. For example, if a car or plane passes your home you may be aware of it for a period of time, but it does not necessarily reduce your amenity.

Qualifying criteria

Blast vibration:

• Two or more blasts per month with ground vibration equal or greater than 1.5mm/s in magnitude.

General:

 Tenants of rental accommodation must have lived at the address for a minimum period of six months before they will be enrolled to receive AEP payments.

How do I know if I qualify?

Residents will be contacted by OGL automatically if the preceding 6 months shows a qualifying result. Typically, this occurs in January and July each year.

Payments & Banking Details

An initial, one-off enrolment payment of \$500 is made to *qualifying residents* who join the programme, with additional payments made each six months for the life of the mine if that property qualifies. The payment is calculated based on measured effects as monitored and recorded by OGL during the preceding six months.

Payments are based on a schedule of rates that increases payments with increasing magnitudes of vibration and is adjusted annually in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

While the payments will vary depending on the mine-related effects experienced, a 'minimum' payment of \$250 has been established that will apply to all *qualifying* residents in any six-month period.

If you are yet to update your banking details with OceanaGold, please do so at your earliest convenience. We require a print-out of your address and bank account details that is verified and stamped by your bank. Your bank can complete this for you; however, it requires an in-person branch visit to do so. With some branches of local banks announcing they will close shortly, we highly recommend verifying your details.

Once completed, return these details to Jeannine Wiki at either the main office at 43 Moresby Ave or the Project Information Office at 86 Seddon Street.

Please note that cheques will no longer be issued for the AEP payments, so you will need to provide verified bank account details to enable payments to be made.

Further Information

For further information about the AEP please contact Jeannine Wiki, our Community Engagement Officer at waihi.info@oceanagold.com or phone 0800 WAIHIGOLD (0800 924 4444).

ANZAC Day started before dawn for some of our team, in paying their respects during the Dawn Service at Waihi Beach where one of our staff was the guest speaker. Several other services were held involving OGL staff, including the ANZAC Day Tunnelling Company Memorial Service at Lake Gilmour and the ANZAC Day Civil Parade.

