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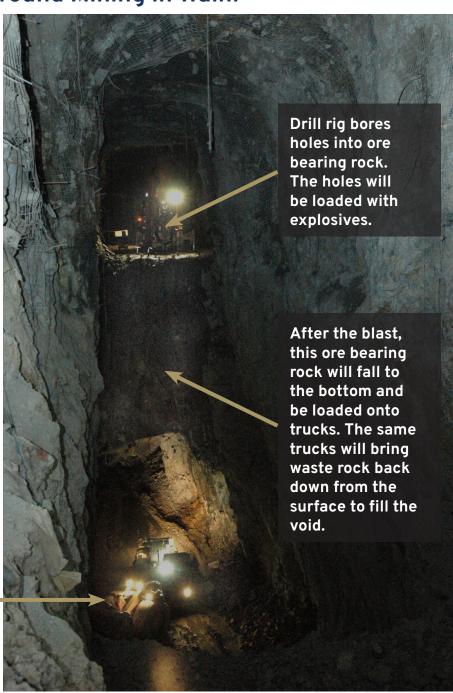
Underground Mining in Waihi

This is what a typical stope looks like as we mine out the ore body in 'virgin ground', that is, rock which has not been mined before. Although the ore body may be much larger, the void (or stope) we create and work in at any one time is smaller.

Typically, we start at the bottom of an ore body and work our way up. As we work, we remove the upper portion of the stope and fill in the floor, so the area we are mining in 'moves' upwards through the ore body. As each level of ore is removed it is replaced with 'waste rock', which is a mining term that simply refers to any rock not containing enough relevant ore to mine. Then the 50 tonne mining machines drive on the placed rock, which in turn forms the 'ground' to work on the next level from. By the time the ore body has been mined out, the void has been progressively replaced with compacted rock, a process known as 'backfilling'.

This remotely controlled loader is working on top of waste rock that has been used to fill the previous stope where the ore has already been mined.

As the operation continues, the open stope will be filled with waste rock and the operation will move up to the next level.





Correnso & Project Martha Community Meeting

Our next Correnso and Project Martha Community Meeting will be held on Thursday the 14th of September from 5:30 to 7:30pm. This public 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 OceanaGold Education Centre on the corner of Moresby Avenue and Savage Road. This meeting is open to the public and all are welcome.

