

# NOISE EFFECTS

## OVERVIEW

Since 1987, when modern mining in Waihi began, a range of controls has been implemented to minimise the impact of noise. If Project Quattro is approved, we will be required to manage our activities so that we comply with strict noise limits. These limits will be in line with the Hauraki District Plan. They will be designed, so we cause minimal impact to our neighbours.

We expect a continuation of our strict current noise limits for the Martha pit, with further noise compliance conditions developed for the other elements of the proposed project.

## KEY EFFECTS

There are a number of activities associated with the proposed Project Quattro that may generate noise:

- Excavation and transportation of rock and ore (including use of the existing conveyor).
- Drilling and blasting operations.
- Operation of crushing equipment.
- Construction activities associated with Project Quattro, e.g., the construction of noise bunds and walls, the diversion of Moresby Avenue, the removal and relocation

of houses and the relocation of the Cornish Pumphouse.

The level of operational noise experienced in the community will depend on the following factors:

- Type, size and operational duration of equipment.
- The location of the equipment.
- The amount of natural screening provided.
- The amount of additional noise screening that is constructed.

Construction activities associated with Project Quattro will be of a

temporary nature. They will be subject to different conditions to mining activity. Where construction noise limits apply, we would be expected to meet conditions similar to those which apply to other construction activities that take place in town, e.g., road works.

## MONITORING

In Waihi, baseline noise monitoring began prior to the commencement of the mining operation in 1987. A substantial database has been produced, and monitoring is on-going.





Regular and systematic monitoring takes place at a number of locations approved by Hauraki District Council. These monitoring locations have varied as mining activities have moved around the operation. Independent monitoring is also carried out by Hauraki District Council.

OceanaGold Waihi has an established noise complaint management procedure that will be continued if Project Quattro is approved. Noise complaints are followed up immediately and, if it is practical to do so, noise monitoring is undertaken. If noise from a complaint is found to be excessive, the procedures outlined in our Noise Management Plan will be followed. If necessary, that activity will be stopped until appropriate mitigation can resolve the noise issue.

### MANAGEMENT MEASURES

If the project is approved, the noise modelling indicates that a range of noise management measures will need to be implemented to meet the proposed consent conditions for noise. These include:

- Moving the existing Grey Street noise bund to the east to screen noise arising from the Martha pit expansion.
- Using smaller equipment when in

the upper levels of the Martha pit, and limiting the number of pieces of equipment operating in certain areas at any one time.

- Localised screening, including shrouds for drills.
- Noise mitigation fitted to equipment (such as mufflers).
- The construction of extensive noise screening around the Martha pit perimeter.
- Construction noise from activities such as road diversions and noise bund earthworks will be managed in accordance with the applicable construction noise standards that are widely applied throughout New Zealand.

If the consent for Project Quattro is granted, OceanaGold Waihi will have an 0800-number available 7-days a week. In the event of a community complaint for noise, a trained technician will be mobilised to ensure we are meeting our strict noise consent requirements. If the noise is found to be excessive, actions to mitigate will be undertaken by the Company.

### CONCLUSION

We are still finalising the noise study for Project Quattro. This study is using recognised New Zealand experts to identify the best measures

to effectively monitor and manage noise impacts. We will share more in-depth details of the proposed project as our studies are finalised.

At this stage, the study indicates that if appropriate noise management measures are applied; in general terms, the operational noise levels received in the community would be at a similar level to historical operating parameters.

Construction activity associated with Project Quattro would be subject to conditions similar to those that apply to other construction activities that take place in town, e.g., road works.

### We welcome your input into developing Project Quattro.

If you have an idea, concern, question or opinion, we want to hear from you. You can contact us through our website;

[www.waihigold.co.nz](http://www.waihigold.co.nz)

or visit us at our Project Information Office;

**86 Seddon Street, Waihi.**

Or use our Community Engagement Line;

**0800 924 444**