

THE CROWN MINERALS ACT 1991 AND THE MINING ACT 1971

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO VARY CONDITIONS OF MINING LICENCE 32 2388

Pursuant to Section 107 and 108 of the Crown Minerals Act 1991 and Section 103D of the Mining Act 1971, public notice is hereby given that the Hauraki District Council, Waikato Regional Council and the Minister of Energy and Resources (acting in their joint capacity as set out in section 108 of the Crown Minerals Act 1991 and to the extent of their respective jurisdictions) propose to vary some of the conditions of Mining Licence 32 2388 (Martha Mine and associated surface works including the processing mill and tailings storage facilities) held over the land specified in the schedule and depicted in the plan below.

This proposal to vary Mining Licence 32 2388 is made in response to an application to vary some conditions received from the licence holder Waihi Gold Company Limited trading as Newmont Waihi Gold. These changes are necessary to enable the applicant's proposed Martha Exploration Project (MEP) to proceed. This proposal is an underground exploration project located entirely within the surface perimeter of the Martha Open Pit and within the area covered by Mining Licence 32 2388.

Following consideration of the licence holder's application, Hauraki District Council, Waikato Regional Council and the Minister of Energy and Resources propose to vary the conditions of Mining Licence 32 2388 slightly differently to the variations sought by Waihi Gold Company Limited. The key matters which are the subject of the Proposed Variation are as follows:

- **To specifically provide for the MEP including the necessary drives, shafts and trial stoping;**
- **For underground operations only, to extend hours of operation to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week;**
- **Allow use of surface facilities and other specified above ground activities associated with underground operations 24 hours per day, 7 days per week provided compliance with existing operational standards can be met;**
- **Extend the hours for blasting for underground operations only as follows: Monday-Friday 0700-1900 and Saturday 1000-1200. Blasting in the underground operation may also take place during the period 1200-1900 on Saturdays where necessary for safety or minor maintenance purposes;**
- **Restrict blasting in underground operations to 4 blast events per day and include a definition of "blast event";**
- **To remove the restriction on underground workings at a depth greater than 100m below sea level presently found in Condition 16(c) of the Mining Licence;**
- **Extend the Peer Review Panel to include expertise in the geotechnical field with recognised experience in underground mining and rock mechanics.**

- **Minor and administrative changes, corrections and necessary consequential amendments**

Copies of the following are available for viewing at the locations specified below:

1. The application by Waihi Gold Company Limited to vary some of the conditions;
 2. The Staff Reports and recommendations provided to Hauraki District Council, Waikato Regional Council and the Minister of Energy and Resources (acting in their joint capacity as set out in section 108 of the Crown Minerals Act 1991) representatives appointed to consider the application by Waihi Gold Company Limited; and
 3. The proposed variation of the Hauraki District Council, Waikato Regional Council and the Minister of Energy and Resources representatives appointed to consider the application by Waihi Gold Company Limited.
- Hauraki District Council, William Street, Paeroa (8:00am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday)
 - Hauraki District Council, Waihi Area Office, Seddon Street, Waihi (8:00am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday)
 - Waihi Library, Seddon Street, Waihi (10:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Thursday and 10:00am to 5:30pm Friday)

Or on Hauraki District Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Any person or body specified in Sections 103E(2) and 126(2) of the Mining Act 1971 may object to the proposed variations by lodging a written objection in the prescribed form with the:

Registrar
Environment Court
DX:CX10086
Auckland 1141

Any objection must be lodged within 20 working days after the day on which this public notice first appeared. The final date for the lodging of objections is therefore Monday 27 February 2012.

A copy of the objection shall be served on the parties shown below either before or immediately after it is lodged with the Registrar:

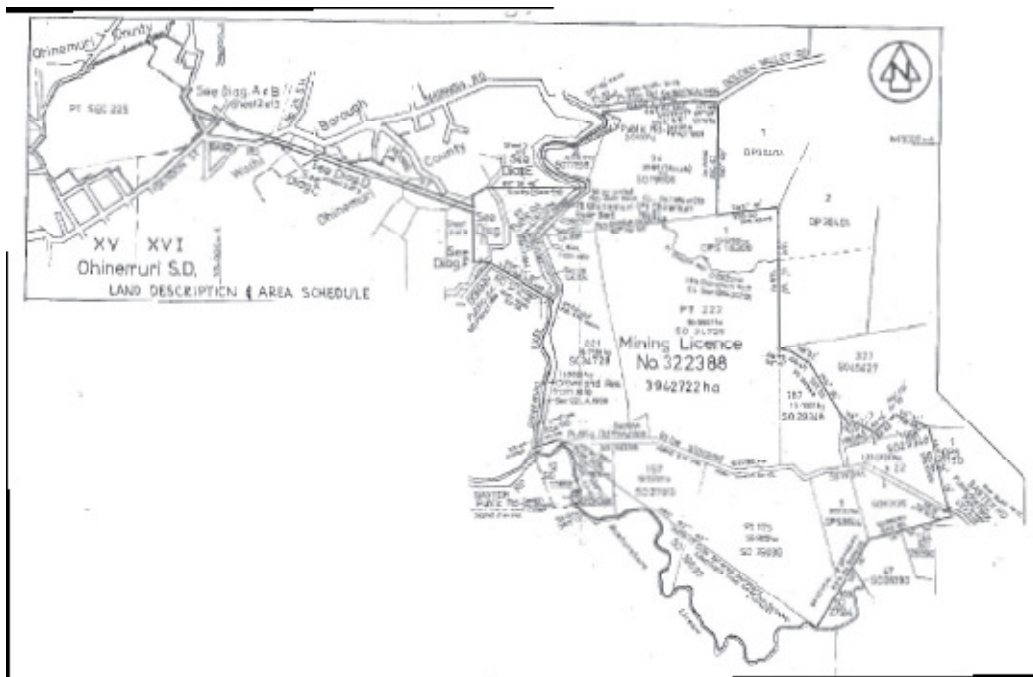
Waihi Gold Company Limited
43 Moresby Avenue
PO BOX 190
Waihi 3641

And

The Acting Secretary (T Faulkner)
Hauraki District Council
PO Box 17
Paeroa 3640

Schedule

All that area of land situated in Blocks XV and XVI Ohinemuri Survey District, South Auckland Land District and as shown on plan S.O. 56888, lodged in the office of the Chief Surveyor at Hamilton as described in Mining Licence 32 2388 (being approximately 394.27 hectares) as shown on the plan below.



Enquiries relating to this application can be directed to: Tim Faulkner, Acting Secretary, Hauraki District Council, P O Box 17, Paeroa - Phone: 07 862 8609)

L D Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council