

Proposed Plan Change 6: Extension of Martha Mineral Zone

Notification Summary

OceanaGold (New Zealand) Limited (OceanaGold) has applied to the Hauraki District Council for a private plan change to rezone 47 properties in Waihi, in the vicinity of the existing Martha Pit, to Martha Mineral Zone (the Proposed Plan Change).

The 47 properties are owned by, or under the control of, OceanaGold, and include 15 properties currently located within the Town Centre Zone, 25 properties currently located within the Residential Zone and 7 properties currently located within the Low Density Residential Zone.

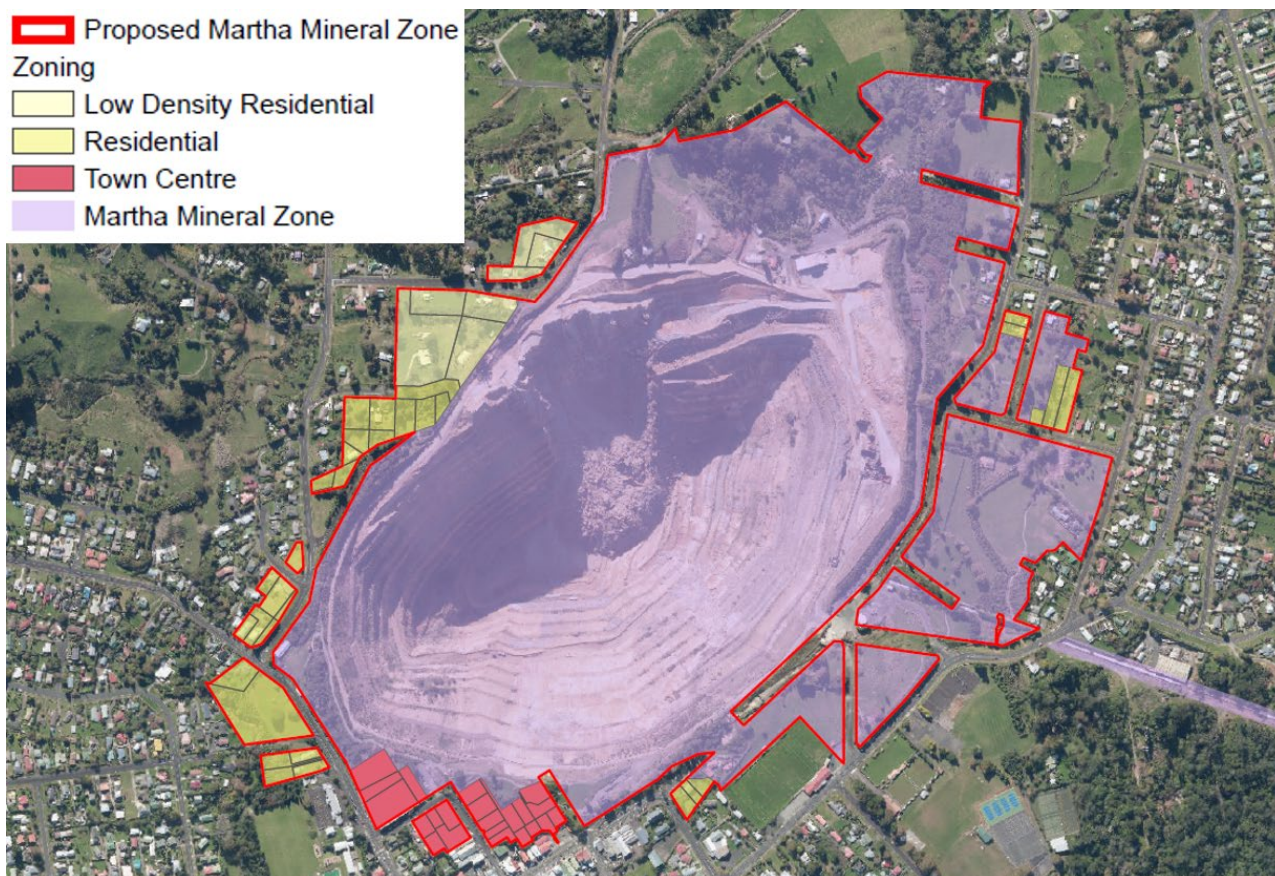
The purpose of this privately initiated plan change application is to expand the boundaries of the existing Martha Mineral Zone around the Martha Pit to enable future resource consent applications to be made for 'surface mining' associated with a further cutback of the Pit. It does this by proposing the expansion of the Martha Mineral Zone around the Martha Pit to include those additional properties which could potentially support a further cutback and/or activities ancillary to surface mining. In doing so, the proposed rezoning would remove the current prohibited activity status that applies to surface mining on these properties by rezoning them to Martha Mineral Zone - meaning a resource consent application (for a discretionary activity) is required to be made that could either be granted or declined.

Other key elements of the Proposed Plan Change are:

- Amending the zone purpose for the Martha Mineral Zone (Section 5.17 of the Hauraki District Plan) to:
 - reflect how the extent of the zone and development within it has occurred over time,
 - acknowledge the relationship of mana whenua with Pukewa maunga (Martha Hill), and
 - explain the distinction between those provisions that apply across the Martha Mineral Zone generally and those exclusively associated with any future expansion of the Martha Pit;
- Amending the singular objective of the Martha Mineral Zone to include reference to providing for the rehabilitation of natural and physical resources that may be affected by mining activities in the Martha Mineral Zone, in addition to providing for the utilisation of the mineral resource in a sustainable manner;
- The inclusion of new policies and assessment criteria specific to the potential expansion of the Martha Pit in the Martha Mineral Zone. This includes specific policy recognition of the relationship of mana whenua with Pukewa maunga and the need to ensure measures are implemented as part of any expansion of the Martha Pit that provide for the wairua or mauri of the maunga to be rehabilitated and/or enhanced;
- The inclusion of a new permitted activity rule for the demolition or removal of buildings in the Martha Mineral Zone; and
- The insertion of new noise performance standards for permitted and restricted discretionary activities in the Martha Mineral Zone (via Section 8.3.1 of the Hauraki District Plan).

Attached is a map showing the proposed extension of the Martha Mineral Zone.

If you have any questions about this private plan change application, then please contact either Marina van Steenbergen or Leigh Robcke at 07 862 8609 at the Hauraki District Council.



The map depicts the proposed (extended) Martha Mineral Zone boundary (red line) and current zoning of the properties within the proposed new boundary. Properties identified as Low Density Residential Zone, Residential Zone, and Town Centre Zone are proposed to be rezoned as Martha Mineral Zone.