

Good morning, thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

My name is Robert Theron, I am a resident of Waihi and an exploration geologist currently working for OceanaGold.

I am here to say a few words in support of Project Martha.

Finally,
I have lived and worked in this area, on and off, for a number of years. I was married here and two of our children were born here - I like to think of ourselves as being part of the community in some small way. I originally came here to take up employment as a geologist and to enjoy the fly fishing opportunities to be had on the local rivers (but not necessarily in that order). I have been fishing these rivers for about 10 years and have never known the waters to be affected by Waihi mining operations. I am confident that future operations will ensure that river flow and water quality ^{is} adequately managed.

Secondly,
I would like to acknowledge the very many of my colleagues who are deeply invested in the community at many levels and in innumerable ways. I work with people who are engaged in a spectrum of community-based organisations and initiatives. Their roots go deep, and it needs to be stressed that on an individual basis, mine employees and their families are deeply woven into the fabric of the greater Waihi area. In my opinion, the continuation of mining operations has implications that reach far beyond the obvious economic benefits – mining will continue to sustain the depth, character and vitality of this community for years to come.

Finally,
I am not here to speak to the technical detail of the Martha Project, but I can attest to the high level of professionalism of the particular team that I work with and the teams that I commonly interact with. I believe that their professionalism, and their motivation to do the right thing, translates across the entire organisation. In my observation, OceanaGold's local workforce, with its strong ties to the community, have the skill, the ethics and the motivation to ensure that all aspects of Project Martha are safely and successfully managed to

Thank you for your time

*the satisfaction of all
shareholders.*