AIR QUALITY MONITORING AT WAIHI

Earlier this year, an external air quality monitoring and dispersion project took place at the Waihi site and surrounding areas. Air Matters Limited completed the assessment and are specialised consultants in environmental air quality and workplace health exposure.

Since 2019, following an expansion of the Martha Underground Mine, the location of the ventilation system for our underground operations has been a roughly 6 m x 6 m portal at the bottom of the Martha Open Pit.

METHODOLOGY

Air Matters monitored various levels of emissions at the portal in the base of the Martha Open Pit. Particulate matter, carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, and crystalline silica were all measured and recorded throughout the testing period, which included several blast events.

Then, an air dispersion model was created using spatial information and weather data from the meteorological station located on the edge of the Martha Open Pit. This modelling accounted for wind speed, direction, temperature, rainfall, humidity, and solar radiation. The measured results at the source were then projected and overlayed on the wider area. The effects assessment followed standard dispersion modelling methodology as outlined in the Ministry for the Environment Good Practice Guide (2016).

RESULTS

Overall recorded values at the point of exit in the Martha Open Pit were low, and in line with previous monitoring data from the Favona vent shaft.

When 'atmospheric dispersion' to areas outside the Martha Open Pit is modelled, i.e. what happens to these particulates as they spread in the wind, these values would reduce even further. This is represented in the report as the 'modelled maximum off-site ground level concentration (GLC)'.

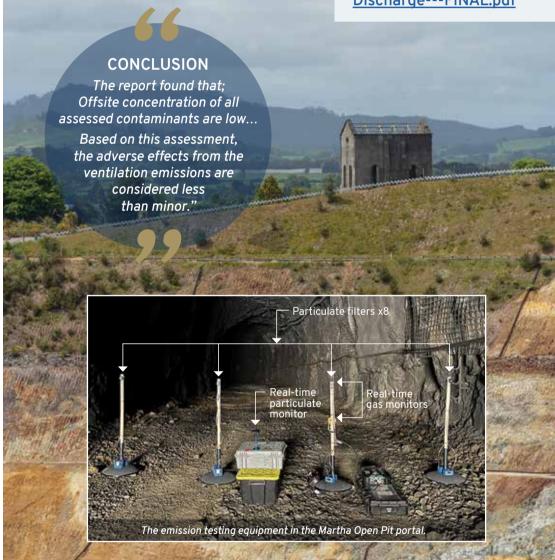
For example, when dispersion of carbon monoxide from the ventilation discharge is modelled, the offsite GLC is expected to be 0.4 mg/m3 over a onehour average outside the Martha Open Pit, which is well below the 30 mg/m3 criteria of the New Zealand Ambient Air Quality Guidelines. For context, the estimated background concentration of carbon monoxide in Waihi is 5 mg/m3.





The full report is available here...

www.waihigold.co.nz/ uploads/documents/ reports-and-plans/ OceanaGold-NZ-Ltd---Waihi-Mine-Ventilation-Discharge---FINAL.pdf



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INVESTING IN OUR HOST COMMUNITY



SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS APPROVED IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH Waihi Badminton Club Waihi Golf Club - Women's Division

Waihi Athletic Rugby & Sports Club Lions Club of Waihi Hauraki Waka Ama Club

Purchase of shuttlecocks \$1,000.00 \$1,000.00 Vouchers for tournament prizes Re-sealing and marking-up carparks \$9,000.00 \$1,400.00 Printing costs for Garden Ramble event Steers blade and safety bags \$4,938.82

TOTAL \$17,338.82