



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER
Mining Section
Northern Office

3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4699
Main: 907.451.2736
TTY: 711 or 800-770-8973
Fax: 907.451.2703

February 9, 2022

Will Collingwood
Senior Environmental Engineer
Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc.
PO Box 73726
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3726

Subject: Fort Knox Mine Plan of Operations & Reclamation Plan Modification 2 F20209852POOA.2 & F20209852RPA.2 for Remediation of the Barnes Creek Fuel Island

Dear Mr. Collingwood:

On February 6, 2022, the Division of Mining, Land, and Water (DMLW) received correspondence from Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. (FGMI) requesting approval to amend the ***Fort Knox Mine Plan of Operations (POO) and Reclamation Plan (RP)*** for the decommissioning and remediation of the Barnes Creek Fuel Island.

The location of the Barnes Creek Fuel Island is within the boundary of Lands that was transferred to FGMI under MHT 9400379 and as such, activities within this parcel are not subject to a modification of the Plan of Operations. The proposed location for the soil farm is within the Millsite Lease issued to FGMI under ADL 414960.

The DMLW Mining section has reviewed the proposed amendment. DMLW Dam Safety, the Alaska Departments of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) and Fish & Game (ADF&G) have been notified and no objections to the proposed amendment have been received.

The requested amendment to the POO and RP as proposed and illustrated in the submission dated February 6, 2022 is hereby approved as ***Fort Knox Mine Plan of Operations Amendment Approval F20209852POOA.2 (POOA) and Reclamation Plan Approval F20209852RPA.2 (RPA)***. Nothing in this decision changes the conditions of the original POOA and RPA as Amended on July 21, 2021. This change should be accounted for in the next update to the Plan of Operations, the Reclamation and Closure Plan, and the closure cost estimate.

Please be advised that this authorization does not eliminate the potential need for authorization of your activity from other Federal, State, or local divisions or agencies.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Brent Martellaro at 907-451-2788

A person affected by this decision may appeal it, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any appeal must be received within 20 calendar days after the date of “issuance” of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC 02.040(c) and (d) and may be mailed or delivered to the Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; faxed to 1-907-269-8918, or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov. Under 11 AAC 02.030, appeals and requests for reconsideration filed under 11 AAC 02 must be accompanied by the fee established in 11 AAC 05.160(d)(1)(F), which has been set at \$200 under the provisions of 11 AAC 05.160 (a) and (b).

This decision takes effect immediately. If no appeal is filed by the appeal deadline, this decision becomes a final administrative order and decision of the department on the 31st calendar day after issuance. An eligible person must first appeal this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to Superior Court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

Sincerely,



Steve Buckley
Mining Section Chief

Enclosure: Copy of FGMI’s February 6, 2022 modification request

Cc via email: Bartly Kleven, FGMI
Kindra Geis, ADNR
William Groom, DNR
Tom Barrett, ADNR
Tim Pilon, ADEC
Ashlee Adoko, ADNR

Brent Martellaro, ADNR
Carolyn Curley, ADNR
Kyle Moselle, ADNR
Charles Cobb, ADNR
Audra Brase, ADF&G
Jenny March, ADNR