



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental
Conservation

DIVISION OF WATER
Fairbanks Office

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September 11, 2023

Bartly Kleven
Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc.
P.O. Box 73726
Fairbanks, AK 99707

Re: Conditional Approval to Process and Dispose of Manh Choh Project Ore at Fort Knox Mine

Dear Ms. Kleven:

On April 4, 2023, the department received your request on behalf of Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. (FGMI) to allow processing and disposal of satellite ore from Manh Choh Project at Fort Knox Mine according to condition 2.2.1.1 of Waste Management Permit 2020DB0002 (Permit). Condition 2.2.5 allows the processing and disposal of ore from satellite pits at the Fort Knox Mine if the permittee submits prescribed test results, and the department determines that there will be insignificant impact on mine closure, reclamation, and water quality. FGMI submitted those required test reports.

The department completed its review of information submitted and finds that mine closure, reclamation, and water quality impacts will be insignificant from processing and disposal of Manh Choh ore at Fort Knox Mine. **Conditional Approval** under condition 2.2.5 of the Permit is granted provided that the following stipulations are satisfied.

- Expand Table 5.1 of *Fort Knox Gold Mine Monitoring Plan* (October 2021) by creating two categories, TSF and Pit Tailing, for the first four items, i.e., mill, liquor, solids, and decant.
- Within 60 days, submit for department approval of an updated and amended version of *Fort Knox Gold Mine Monitoring Plan* with stipulated changes to Section 5.1.
- In quarterly monitoring reports required by WMP 2020DB0002, demark the date when Manh Choh ore processing commenced on the tailings seepage graphs for antimony, arsenic, cadmium, copper, mercury, and weak acid dissociable cyanide.

In related Permit matters, this approval necessitated minor adjustments to the Permit. See page 13 of the enclosed Permit. Additionally, a note was placed in the footer of that page indicating that it underwent minor modifications on September 11, 2023. Second, condition 2.1.5.1(x) allows disposal of tires in inert solid waste landfills a Fort Knox Mine regardless of origin. Finally, Permit condition 2.1.6.3 triggers annual pit lake modelling upon disposal of waste in the Main Pit.

If you have questions, please contact me at (907) 451-2136 or tim.pilon@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Pilon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Pilon
Engineer II

Enclosure: Waste Management Permit 2020DB0002 with minor modification on 9/11/23

cc: Mark Huffington, FGMI
William Groom, DNR, Fairbanks

Ashlee Adoko, DNR, Anchorage
Allan Nakanishi, DEC, Fairbanks