



September 13, 2012

Alaska Gold Company  
P. O. Box 640  
Nome, Alaska 99762-0640

Attention: Mr. Ron Rimelman

**RE: REMOVAL FROM STATE DAM SAFETY JURISDICTION  
ROCK CREEK TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY DAM (NID No. AK00309)**

Dear Mr. Rimelman:

On February 10, 2012, the Dam Safety and Construction Unit of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR Dam Safety) issued to Alaska Gold Company (AGC) a *Certificate of Approval to Abandon a Dam* for the Rock Creek Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) Dam. Subsequently, AGC submitted the document by HKM Dowl titled "As-built Construction, Rock Creek Mine Reclamation and Closure Plan—Phase 1, Nome, Alaska" dated June 19, 2012. Based on a review of that document and a site visit on April 19, 2012, ADNR Dam Safety finds that AGC has completed the work necessary to meet the terms and conditions of the certificate of approval. Consequently, the dam is no longer capable of impounding water and the potential hazard to the downstream reach from impounded water no longer exists.

The planned breach of the Rock Creek TSF Dam also effectively resolves any and all outstanding concerns of the violation described in a letter to AGC from ADNR Dam Safety dated December 12, 2008. Therefore, ADNR Dam Safety herein ends any state regulatory jurisdiction for the project under Article 3 of 11 AAC 93, including the financial assurance requirements of 11 AAC 93.171(f)(2)(C) and 11 AAC 93.172(a)(6)(C). Consequently, the Rock Creek TSF Dam (AK00309) will be removed from the Alaska Dam Inventory and nominated for removal from the National Inventory of Dams. However, if a plan is developed to build another dam or to return the remaining portions of the embankment to service as a dam (as defined under AS 46.17.900), a new application must be submitted in compliance with the requirements of 11 AAC 93.171.

Thank you for your cooperation with the Alaska Dam Safety Program. Your attention to this important aspect of the Rock Creek Mine Project is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles F. Cobb".

Charles F. Cobb, P. E.  
State Dam Safety Engineer

cc: Ed Fogels, ADNR  
Brent Goodrum, ADNR  
State of Alaska LMPT

D/F:I:dam projects/rock creek/2012/AGC091312