



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER
Mining Section

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April 11, 2019

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

**Subject: Fort Knox Mine Plan of Operations Approval Amendment 14
F20149852POOA.14 for Additional Acres of Disturbance for Clearing and
Grubbing associated with the Barnes Creek Heap Leach Facility**

Dear Ms. Pyecha:

On April 3, 2019, 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)* for additional acreage to be disturbed for clearing & grubbing to support Barnes Creek Heap Leach Facility construction.

The DMLW understands this request includes the potential to clear and grub 15.5 acres, and that FGMI will stockpile all organic material for future reclamation.

The DMLW Mining section has reviewed the proposed amendment. 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 as proposed and illustrated in the submission dated April 3, 2019 is hereby approved as *Fort Knox Mine Plan of Operations Amendment Approval F20149852POOA.14 (POOA)*. Nothing in this decision changes the conditions of the original POO Approval dated March 28, 2014. 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.

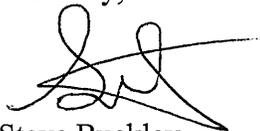
Please be advised that this authorization does not eliminate the potential need for authorization of your activity from other Federal, State, or local divisions or agencies.

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.

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

Sincerely,



Steve Buckley
Mining Section Chief

Enclosure: Copy of FGMI's April 3, 2019 amendment request

Cc via email: Mark Huffington, FGMI
Brent Martellaro, ADNR
Carolyn Curley, ADNR
Kyle Moselle, ADNR
Charles Cobb, ADNR
Audra Brase, ADF&G
Ashlee Adoko, ADNR

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