

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER
DAM SAFETY AND CONSTRUCTION UNIT



Certificate of Approval to Operate a Dam

The State of Alaska under AS 46.17, and the regulations adopted under this statute, grants to:

Fairbanks Gold Mining Inc.

The approval to modify the following structure at the **Fort Knox Mine** in accordance with the terms and conditions contained in this certificate:

Pearl Creek Causeway Dam (NID ID# AK00311)

The location of this project is: T2N, R3E, S14, Fairbanks Meridian

The holder of this certificate shall:

- Operate, monitor, inspect and maintain the Pearl Creek Causeway Dam and appurtenant works in accordance with accepted practices, and the *Operations and Maintenance Manual Rev. 13 (O&M Manual)*, dated November 2024.
- Except for claims or losses arising from negligence of the State, defend and indemnify the State against, and hold it harmless from any and all claims, demands, legal actions, loss, liability and expense for injury or death of persons, and damages to or loss of property, arising out of or connected with the exercise of the approval granted by this certificate.
- Comply with all applicable laws, regulations and conditions.
- Allow representatives of the Department to inspect the work and records covered by this certificate at all times determined necessary by the Commissioner.
- Follow special conditions listed in Attachment A, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO OPERATE A DAM
Pearl Creek Causeway Dam

This *Certificate of Approval to Operate a Dam* supersedes any other *Certificate of Approval to Operate a Dam* for the Pearl Creek Causeway Dam and shall become invalid 60 days after the Periodic Safety Inspection due date specified under Attachment A. A valid certificate shall be issued with revised special conditions based on information contained in a current Periodic Safety Inspection Report approved by the Department and dam safety regulatory standards current at the time of the inspection.

This *Certificate of Approval to Operate a Dam* is granted subject to the pertinent statutory provisions in AS 46.17 and the Administrative Regulations in 11 AAC 93.

APPROVED BY: Benjamin Wagner, P.E.

TITLE: State Dam Safety Engineer
Division of Mining, Land and Water

SIGNATURE: Ben Wagner

DATE: December 4, 2024

State of Alaska)
) SS.
Third Judicial District)

This is to certify that on December 4, 2024, before me appeared Benjamin Wagner, known by me to be the Authorized Representative of the Division of Mining, Land and Water, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and acknowledged to me that this Certificate of Approval was voluntarily executed on behalf of the State of Alaska.



Cath. Shepherd
Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska
My Commission expires: With Office

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO OPERATE A DAM
Pearl Creek Causeway Dam

Attachment A – Special Conditions

1. The Pearl Creek Causeway Dam (AK00311) is approved to operate as a Class III (Low) hazard potential dam as defined in 11 AAC 93.157 at a nominal crest elevation of 1563.0 feet above mean sea level (fmsl).
2. The primary purpose of the Pearl Creek Causeway Dam is to impound tailings, and the resultant decant pond during the modification of the Fort Knox Tailings (TSF) Dam (AK00212). Consequently, the Fort Knox TSF Dam must be reconstructed to at least a seal zone crest elevation 1563 fmsl before this certificate of approval expires. A separate certificate of approval is required for the modification of the Fort Knox TSF Dam.
3. Operate, monitor, inspect, and maintain the Pearl Creek Causeway Dam in accordance with best practices and the procedures described in the O&M. Inspect the dam and appurtenant works after all significant seismic or precipitation events. Maintain records of the inspections, monitoring data, and routine maintenance.
4. Document any routine operations and maintenance procedures that deviate from or are not included in the current version of the O&M Manual. Review the O&M Manual concurrent with each Periodic Safety Inspection and revise as necessary.
5. Implement the recommendations in the Engineer's Statement of the Construction Completion Report Rev. 0 dated November 19, 2024 no later than September 30, 2025. Submit a report in a format acceptable to the Department within 30 days of implementing the recommendations.
6. Perform a Periodic Safety Inspection (PSI) on the dam and appurtenant works as required by 11 AAC 93.159. The visual inspection for the next PSI is due by November 19, 2029. Subsequent PSIs shall be performed every five years as required by 11 AAC 93.159. The PSI must be performed by an engineer qualified in accordance with 11 AAC 93.193(b). Approval of the engineer and the scope of the PSI must be obtained from the Department in advance of the PSI. Submit a draft PSI report to the Department for review within 30 days of the visual inspection of the dam.
7. For any modifications, major repairs, removal, or abandonment of the dam, an application for a certificate of approval must be submitted to the Department.
8. This *Certificate of Approval to Operate a Dam* expires on January 18, 2030.

End of Attachment A