

Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc A subsidiary of Kinross Gold Corp. PO Box 73726 Fairbanks, AK 99707-3726

> Phone: (907) 488-4653 Fax: (907) 490-2290 www.kinross.com

January 19, 2017

Brent Martellaro Division Mining, Land and Water Department of Natural Resources 3700 Airport Way Fairbanks, AK 99709-4699

Subject: 2017 Heap Leach Expressway

Dear Mr. Martellaro,

Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc. (FGMI) is requesting a modification to our Plan of Operations for the Fort Knox Gold Mine. This modification includes clearing and grubbing 6.1 acres for the construction of the Heap Leach Expressway and recovering subbase material.

The Heap Leach Expressway includes a second multiplate tunnel to be constructed on the mine access road. The tunnel will increase safety by minimizing large mine equipment and local traffic interaction. The expressway also serves to increase ore placement efficiency on the Walter Creek Heap Leach pad (WCHL).

Figure 1 shows the current construction status of the Barnes Creek Waste Rock Dump (BCWRD) and the area planned disturbance. Total area to be disturbed is 6.1 acres. Investigatory test pits confirming suitable subbase material was completed in 2016. The material in this area will be used for the construction of the WCHL pad to the north.

Figure 2 shows the new location of the Barnes Creek growth media pad. The Fort Knox powerline will be relocated in the spring of 2017 to enable the construction of the Heap Leach expressway.

Figure 3 shows the location of the access road bypass during the multiplate tunnel construction and the final growth media platform on the BWRD 2200 lift. The platform will also be utilized for the access bypass road.

Figure 4 is the final configuration for the expressway, multiplate tunnel, BCWRD and the new Barnes Creek growth media location.



Fairbanks Gold Mining, Inc A subsidiary of Kinross Gold Corp. PO Box 73726 Fairbanks, AK 99707-3726

> Phone: (907) 488-4653 Fax: (907) 490-2290 www.kinross.com

All organic material from the new disturbance associated with this modification request will be stockpiled on the new Barnes Creek growth media stockpile for future reclamation.

There are no wetlands identified in this area.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions at 907-490-6184 or email Jennifer.pyecha@kinross.com

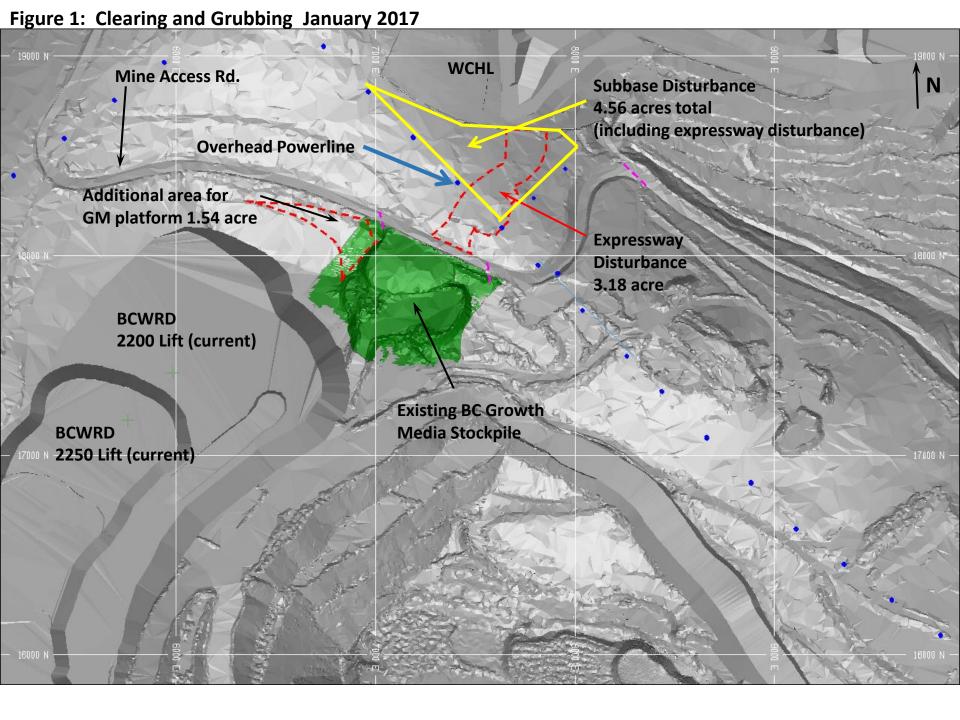
Regards,

Jennifer Pyecha

Senior Environmental Engineer

cc: Bartly Kleven, FGMI

Ellen Lyons, ACOE Kyle Moselle, ADNR



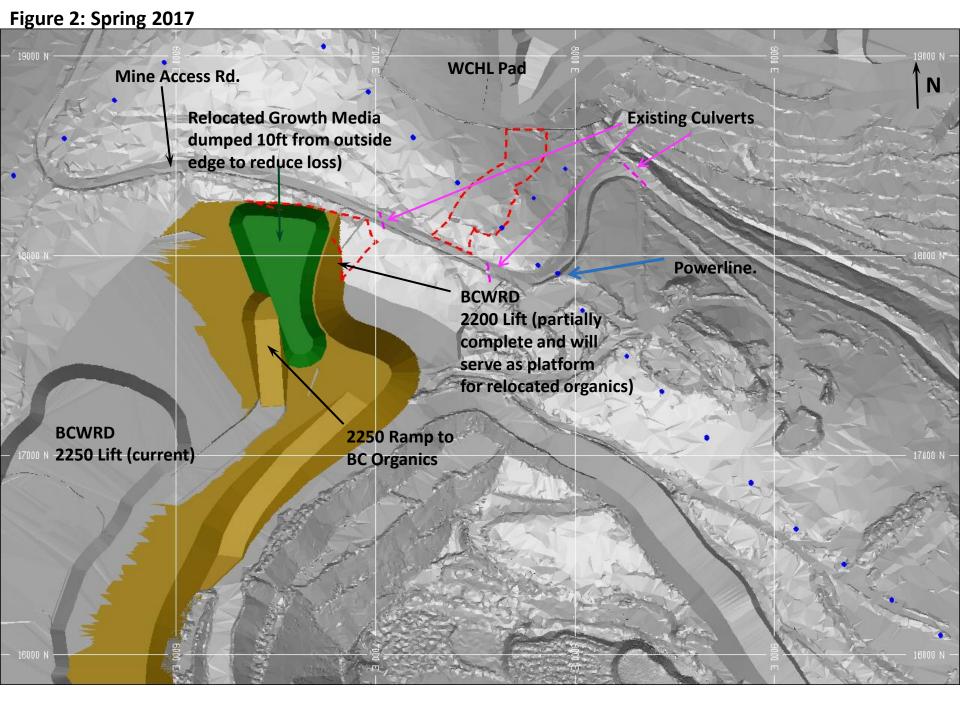


Figure 2: Access Road Bypass Spring and Summer 2017

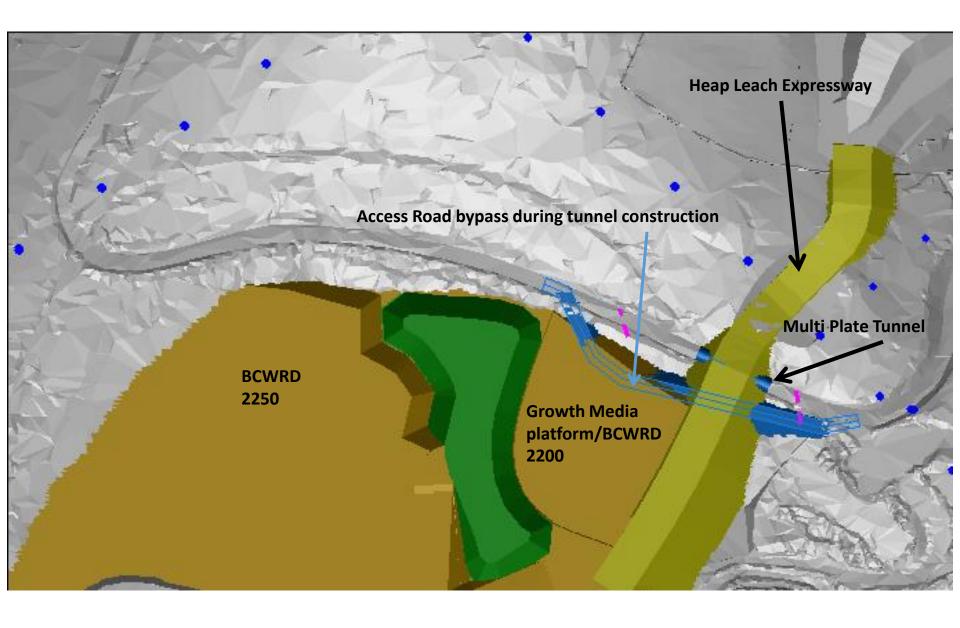


Figure 4: Heap Leach Expressway Construction Completed Summer 2017 Walter Cr. Heap Leach Mine Access Rd. **Relocated Growth Media Stockpile** Walter Cr. Heap Leach **Expressway and Tunnel** Final BCWRD 2200 Lift (will serve as access to growth media stockpile) **BCWRD** 2050 lift toe with controls to maintain 15-20ft clear perimeter around media stockpile to minimize mixing)