



January 19, 2023
COR-23-003
Submitted via email

William Groom
Alaska Department of Natural Resources,
Division of Mining, Land and Water – Mining Section
3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

RE: Request for Administrative Extension in the Renewal of Northern Star Resources (Pogo) LLC's Plan of Operations

Dear Mr. Groom,

Northern Star (Pogo) LLC's current Plan of Operations (Approval No. F20189500) is effective through May 23, 2023, and is subject to renewal no later than January 23, 2023 (120 days before the expiration date of the Plan of Operations).

As previously discussed in our monthly LMPT meetings, Pogo engaged Golder/WSP to update the closure and post-closure monitoring cost estimates in the context of an expanded drystack tailings facility (DSTF). In parallel with this effort, Golder/WSP will also be updating Pogo's Reclamation and Closure Plan and generate a revised geotechnical and hydrological characterization report.

Given the relatively short timeline between the renewal application and the application that justifies expansion of the DSTF, Pogo is formally requesting an administrative extension of the current Plan of Operations until such time that Golder/WSP's documents are ready for agency review. Pogo understands that until the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues a new approval, the existing Plan of Operations Approval continues to remain in effect.

Golder/WSP anticipates completing this work by July 20, 2023, at which point we will review their work product with the respective regulatory agency staff and prepare/finalize for submittal by September 20, 2023.

We appreciate DNR's consideration on this request. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at meckert@nsrltd.com, or you may contact Russell Gossett, Environmental Manager, via email at rgossett@nsrltd.com and via phone at (907) 895-2831.

Sincerely,

Michael Eckert
General Manager
Northern Star (Pogo) LLC

cc: Kate Harper (ADNR)