## STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER -- MINING SECTION** 

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

550 WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SUITE 920 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3514

PHONE: (907) 269-8621 FAX: (907) 269-8930

August 10, 2011

Nova Gold PO Box 24 Suite 2300 – 200 Granville Street Vancouver, British Columbia Canada V6C 1S4 Attention: Ron Rimelman

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Re: Extension of the Rock Creek & Big Hurrah Mine Project Reclamation Plan Approval (F20069578)

Dear Mr. Rimelman,

The current Reclamation Plan Approval (F20069578) was issued effective from August 9, 2006 to August 8, 2011. The Rock Creek Mine is currently in care and maintenance status while Nova Gold develops final facility reclamation and closure plans.

You submitted a revised and updated draft of the Reclamation Plan in April 2011 and received agency review comments. A second revision to the DRAFT Rock Creek Mine Reclamation and Closure Plan was received July 8<sup>th</sup>; we understand that the revised closure cost estimate will be submitted soon.

The Division of Mining, Land and Water hereby administratively extends the current Rock Creek & Big Hurrah Mine Project Reclamation Plan Approval (F20069578) until December 31, 2011 in order to allow for completion of agency review and any public process associated with the reissuance of the Reclamation Plan Approval.

If this office can be of any additional service, please do not hesitate to contact me at (907) 269-8621 or Steve McGroarty at (907) 451-2795.

Sincerely,

Steve McGroarty

Digitally signed by Steve McGroarty DN: cn=Steve McGroarty, o=DNR, ou=DMLW, email=steve.mcgroarty@alaska.go v, c=US Date: 2011.08.10 17:48:04 -08'00'

for

Rick Fredericksen, Mining Section Chief Division of Mining, Land & Water

cc: Jack DiMarchi, OPMP
Stephanie Lovell, ADNR
Jim Vohden, ADNR
Tim Pilon, ADEC
Sharmon Stambaugh, OPMP

Andrea Meyer, OPMP Charlie Cobb, ADNR Allan Nakanishi, ADEC Laura Jacobs, ADF&G Steve McGroarty, ADNR Chandler Engel, ADNR Pete McGee, ADEC Bill Morris, ADF&G