



Energy, Mines and Resources
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

April 17, 2007

File No: QML - 0001

Mr. Stephen Quin,
President and CEO,
Minto Explorations Ltd
Suite 860 – 625 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 2T6

Dear Mr. Quin,

Re: Approval of Minto Mine Tailings Management Plan

Pursuant to section 10.2 of Quartz Mining License QML-0001 (the "QML"), you have submitted amendments to the Thickened Tailings Management Plan to the Chief, Mining Land Use (the "Chief"), for review and approval.

These amendments were contained in two documents. These documents are:

- A report entitled, "*Minto Mine, Tailings Management Plan, January 2007*" (document received in this office on January 17, 2007); and
- A letter entitled, "*QML – 0001 – Minto Mine Tailings Management Plan, Additional Information*," from William Dunn to Robert Holmes, dated March 15, 2007 (document received in this office on March 15, 2007).

In my capacity as Chief I have reviewed the above-noted amendments to the Thickened Tailings Management Plan, and approve them subject to the conditions noted below (the "conditions").

Pursuant to section 10.1 of the QML, Minto Explorations Ltd must implement the amended Thickened Tailings Management Plan in accordance with the details described in the two documents noted above, subject to the conditions. As set out in section 10.3, the amended plan, and the conditions, replaces the previously approved thickened tailings management plan. For ease of reference, the amended plan and conditions will be referred to as the "Minto Mine Tailings Management Plan" in this and future correspondence.

Conditions of Approval:

1. Information contained in the letter , “*QML – 0001 – Minto Mine Tailings Management Plan, Additional Information*”, from William Dunn to Robert Holmes, dated March 15, 2007 will replace information contained in the report “*Minto Mine, Tailings Management Plan, January 2007*” to the extent that there is any contradiction in the information contained in these two documents;
2. A tailings operations, maintenance and surveillance (OMS) manual shall be prepared and utilized by the Licensee no later than start-up. After start-up, this manual shall be amended as a result of practical operational experience and prepared in accordance with the guidelines contained in the document “*Developing an Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance Manual for Tailings and Water Management Facilities, Mining Association of Canada*”. This amended OMS manual shall be submitted to the Chief no later than December 31, 2007;
3. This OMS manual shall be further amended by the Licensee where any additional monitoring or operational modifications are recommended in the report required pursuant to condition of approval # 5 below. All such further updated OMS manuals shall be included in the annual report for that reporting year as required pursuant to Section 16.1 of the QML;
4. The OMS manual must describe a contingency plan to address mitigative measures that could be implemented if thaw induced deformation of the foundation is observed as a result of the surveillance and monitoring program described in the Minto Mine Tailings Management Plan. This contingency plan should identify appropriate trigger levels of non-conformance in foundation conditions and commensurate contingency measures;
5. Each year, a professional engineer, licensed to practice in the Yukon, shall complete an annual report on the thaw stability of the dry stack tailings foundation and slopes. This report should be based on the results of the surveillance and monitoring program described in the Minto Mine Tailings Management Plan and the physical monitoring program as referenced in 9.3.1 of the QML. The report should include an evaluation of the potential magnitude of induced foundation pore pressure, any additional monitoring that may be desirable, and any design or operational modifications considered necessary. This report shall be included by the licensee in the annual report required pursuant to Section 16.1 of the QML ;
6. The total volume of tailings placed in the approved tailings storage facility shall not exceed 5.9 million tonnes; and
7. The location and limits of the tailings storage facility as set out in the Minto Mine Tailings Management Plan shall not be changed without prior approval of the Chief.

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For greater certainty, in reviewing and approving the submitted designs, I have relied upon the seal of the engineer who prepared the designs and neither I nor the Yukon Government makes any representations or warranties as to the sufficiency or adequacy of these designs. Further, you are reminded that my approval pertains only to my responsibilities under the *Quartz Mining Act* and that all work undertaken in relation to the construction and use of the tailings storage facility must comply with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and related regulations.

Should you have any questions please to not hesitate to call me at (867) 667-3126.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Holmes', is positioned above the printed name.

Robert Holmes

Director, Mineral Resources

cc: William Dunn, Minto Exploration
Beverly Brown, Selkirk First Nation
Jon Bowen, Director Environmental Programs
Steve Colp, NRO Whitehorse