



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

March 25, 2010

Mr. Darren Pylot  
President and CEO,  
Minto Explorations Ltd.  
Suite 900-999 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC V6C 2W2

Dear Mr. Pylot,

**Re: Approval of Phase IV Preliminary Activities**

Your request to undertake preliminary activities relating to Phase IV mining was received by Energy Mines and Resources via e-mail on March 21, 2011. The request was described in the following documents:

1. A plan prepared by EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd. entitled "Stage I Waste Management Plan, Area 2 Open Pit Development, Minto Mine", dated March 4, 2011. (This plan will be referred to as the WMP)
2. A plan prepared by Minto Explorations Ltd. entitled "General Site Plan, Minto Mine Phase IV Expansion", dated March 1, 2011. (This plan will be referred to as the GSP)

After review of the plans I have determined that only the activities set out under section 6.3 of the amendment and no other activities contained in the above plans are approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Only of Grade Bin 0 material may be used to construct and maintain;
  - a. the toe of the Mill Valley Fill ("MVF"); and
  - b. roads used to access the toe of the MVF.
2. All organics material must be placed within the currently approved Reclamation Overburden Dump ('ROD') or the pit limits of the Area 2/118 pit as described in the GSP;
3. All overburden material must be placed within the currently approved Southwest Waste Dump ('SWD');
4. Construction of the MVF toe must be in accordance with the design specifications and Figure WMP-04 of the WMP;

5. Initial development of Area 2/118 pit must be carried out in accordance with the GSP;
6. All organic material, overburden and bedrock must be stored separately;
7. Explosives must be set off in a manner to minimize the impact on wildlife and the public and to ensure that forest fires, unplanned landslides, or artificial damming of water bodies does not occur;
8. Waste rock must be characterized in accordance with the WMP; and
9. The previously approved volumes of material to be stored in the ROD and SWD are amended to accommodate the additional waste from the Phase IV Preliminary activities.

I wish to remind you that all requirements of QML-0001 remain in effect.

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 the plans or designs. Further, you are reminded that the approval of the Chief pertains only to the Chief's responsibilities under the *Quartz Mining Act* and that for greater certainty, nothing in this approval limits the applicable federal or territorial laws, including the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and related regulations.

Where there is discrepancy between the plans cited above and the conditions of this approval, the conditions of this approval shall prevail.

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

Yours truly,



Tim Smith,  
Chief, Mining Land Use

cc. Chief Darin Isaac, Selkirk First Nation  
Dean Gill, YESAA Officer  
Steve Colp, Natural Resources Officer – Mining, Yukon Government  
Kevin McDonnell, Director Water Resources