



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

December 20, 2007

Mr. William W. Dunn,  
Manager, Regulatory & Corporate Affairs  
Minto Explorations Ltd.  
Suite 860 - 625 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC V6C 2T6

Dear Mr. Dunn:

**Re: Temporary Approval for Reclamation Overburden Dump, Minto Mine**

Pursuant to Section 9.1.1 of Quartz Mining License QML-0001 (QML), you have submitted a plan for the construction of an overburden dump for the Chief's review and approval. This proposal and plan was received in my office via email on December 13, 2007. The plan is described in the two documents entitled:

1. A letter from Bill Dunn to Robert Holmes, dated December 12, 2007, entitled "Re: QLM-0001 Notification of need to start a Reclamation Material Stockpile (RMS)"
2. A letter from EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd to Bill Dunn, dated December 13, 2007, entitled "Proposed Reclamation Overburden Dump, Minto Mine, YT";

This proposed dump would be for the purpose of storing overburden material excavated from the Minto pit, for possible future use in reclamation at the site. The proposed dump is entitled the "Reclamation Overburden Dump."

Section 9.11 of the QML authorizes myself as Chief to review and approve "detailed" plans, and also requires that these detailed plans be received 60 days prior to placement of materials in the overburden dump. The plans you have forwarded to me are not detailed and, as I understand it, you wish to commence placement of materials in less than 60 days. On December 20, 2007, Natural Resources Officer Steve Colp issued a variation notice, pursuant to his authority under Section 142 the *Quartz Mining Act*, which provides for a variance of these two requirements in the QML in this particular instance only. This variation notice is appended to this letter and, in my view, provides sufficient authorization for this temporary approval as set out in this letter.

I, in my capacity as Chief, have reviewed the above-noted proposal for construction of the Reclamation Overburden Dump ("ROD"), and approve it subject to the conditions noted below. Pursuant to Section 9.1.2 of the QML, Minto Explorations Ltd is authorized to construct and use the ROD in accordance with the following terms and conditions.

Reclamation Overburden Dump terms and conditions

1. Material deposited in the ROD shall consist only of non ice rich overburden material;

2. Ice rich overburden material encountered shall only be deposited in the approved Ice Rich Overburden dump. The licensee shall follow a sampling protocol to ensure that placement of ice rich overburden is not occurring in the ROD;
3. The volume of the material stored in the ROD shall not exceed 550,000 cubic meters;
4. The ROD dump location is restricted to the area shown in Figure 1 of the letter from EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd to Bill Dunn, dated December 13, 2007 entitled "Proposed Reclamation Overburden Dump, Minto Mine, YT";
5. Detailed design plans for the ROD shall be submitted to the Chief Mining Land Use prior to February 8, 2008;
6. These detailed design plans must be prepared and sealed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the Yukon, as set out under Section 9.1.1 of the QML;
7. These detailed design plans shall include a description of the material to be deposited in the ROD, in particular it's characteristics for reclamation purposes and organic content, as well as those items described in Section 9.1.3 of the QML;
8. Construction and use of the overburden dump must be undertaken in accordance with the Chief's approval of the detailed plans, including any terms and conditions of the approval provided by the Chief, as set out under Section 9.1.2 of the QML;
9. In order for construction to comply with the Chief's approval, some retrofitting of the placed material may be required, including possibly re-sloping the dump or constructing a perimeter rock shell. If the detailed designs indicate, in the Chief's opinion, that the overburden material cannot be deposited or engineered in a manner to ensure adequate environmental mitigation, the overburden material shall be removed either in whole or in part and relocated in the main waste dump under the design specifications approved previously by the Chief for the main waste dump;
10. You are reminded that Section 9.1.4 of the QML applies.

For greater certainty, in approving this plan and authorizing the placement of materials in the ROD, I have relied upon the seal of the engineer who prepared the plan, wherein it was assured that a satisfactory engineering design for the ROD could be completed. Neither the Yukon government nor I make any representations or warranties as to the sufficiency or adequacy of this assertion. 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 ROD must comply with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and related regulations.

Yours truly;



Robert Holmes

- cc. Chief Darin Isaac, Selkirk First Nation  
Beverly Brown, Land and Resource Director, Selkirk First Nation  
Steve Colp, Natural Resources Officer – Mining, Yukon Government