

MEMORANDUM

CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
155 South Seward Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

DATE: July 31, 2014

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Teri Camery, Senior Planner *TC*
Community Development Department

FILE NO: MLG2014 0001

PROPOSAL: Expansion of the Greens Creek mine tailings disposal facility

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicant: Mike Satre, Government and Community Relations Manager

Property Owner: Hecla-Greens Creek Mining Company

Property Address: Admiralty Island

Legal Description: Greens Creek Mine

Parcel Code Number: 3-A01-0-100-001-0

Site Size: Approximately 400 acres

Zoning: Rural Reserve

Utilities: On-site systems

Access: Aircraft or Boat via Hawk Inlet or Young Bay

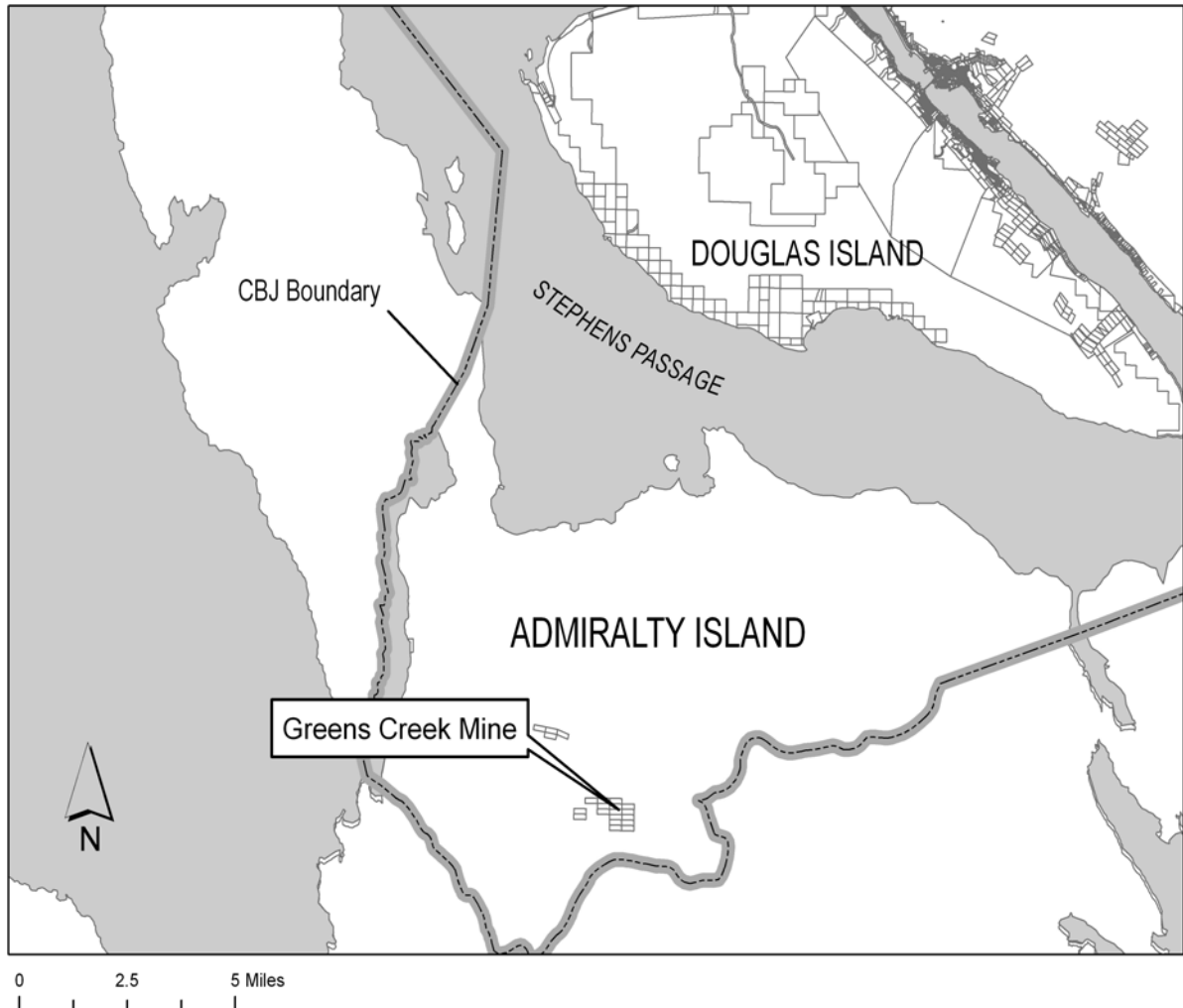
Existing Land Use: Mine Facilities

Surrounding Land Use:

North	-	Stephens Passage
South	-	Chatham Strait/Chichagof Island
East	-	Admiralty Island National Monument
West	-	Chatham Strait/Icy Strait



Vicinity Map



ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Development Permit Application
Attachment 2	Large Mine Permit Application
Attachment 3	Applicant Summary Approval Project Narrative
Attachment 3A	Site Plans
Attachment 3B	Photographs
Attachment 3C	Draft ADEC Waste Management Permit
Attachment 3D	Corps of Engineers Public Notice
Attachment 3E	Mitigation Plan for Tailings Expansion
Attachment 4	CBJ Roaded Service Area

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The applicant requests Summary Approval for the proposed expansion of the Greens Creek Mine Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF), according to the requirements of the City and Borough mining ordinance, CBJ 49.65.155(b)(2). Summary Approval requirements and the Planning Commission review process will be discussed in the next section of this report.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision for the Greens Creek tailings pile expansion were released in September 2013. The Record of Decision has identified Alternative D Modified as the preferred alternative for the project.

The TDF is currently approved for 62 acres with a capacity for 5.3 million yards of tailings and waste rock. This area will support mine operations until 2019. Alternative D Modified allows for an additional 2.1 million cubic yards of tailings and waste rock over 18 acres, which will support mine operations through approximately 2029. (See Attachment 3A, Tailings Storage Area, Stage 3 Phase 1 Expansion.) Specifically, Alternative D Modified allows for:

- Expansion of the existing tailings disposal facility (TDF) southward into Admiralty Island National Monument by about 18 acres;
- Development of a reclamation material storage area near the junction of the A and B roads, outside of the Monument;
- Development of an 8 acre rock quarry north of the existing TDF, and access from within the existing facility, outside of the Monument;
- Development of a new water management pond south of the existing TDF and expansion of existing water management ponds; and
- Relocation of the B road and truck wheel wash facility to accommodate the TDF expansion.

According to the Corps of Engineers Public Notice, (Attachment 3D), the project would impact approximately 14 acres of wetlands. These wetlands are not categorized in the Juneau Wetlands Management Plan. The applicant has proposed preservation of 48 acres of off-site wetlands as mitigation at the Nevada Creek Mitigation Site on South Douglas Island.

As in the 2004 Greens Creek tailings expansion, Alternative D Modified provides for the continuous addition of carbon to the tailings during placement, to neutralize the acid-forming tendency of the material.

PLANNING COMMISSION REVIEW PROCESS

The requirements for Summary Approval have been established in the City and Borough mining ordinance, CBJ 49.65.155(b)(2), as follows:

49.65.155(b)(2). Summary Approval. *Upon request of the applicant, the Director [of CDD] may summarily approve a proposed change in mining operations not constituting a new land use or separate development upon a written determination that:*

- (i) the mine is located entirely outside the roaded service area established in CBJ 01.30.320;*
- (ii) the application is complete, providing all of the information necessary for the Director to make the summary approval determinations set forth in [these] subsections (i)-(iv);*
- (iii) the proposed change in mining operations will have no significant impact within the roaded service area on habitat, sound, screening, drainage, traffic, lighting, safety, dust, surface subsidence, avalanches, landslides or erosion, and;*
- (iv) the proposed change in mining operations has undergone or is undergoing environmental review and approval by one or more federal agencies, state agencies, or both.*

49.65.155(b)(2)(C) Planning Commission review.

- (i) The director shall promptly forward the proposed summary approval to the Planning Commission after the determination is completed. The Planning Commission may ratify or reject the proposal summary approval.*
- (ii) If the Commission rejects the proposed summary approval, it may:*
 - a) return the matter to the director for further consideration of whether the director, in consultation with the applicant, can address issues identified by the commission through imposition of conditions or changes in the proposed mining operation; or*
 - b) direct that the proposed change be processed by the department as an application for an allowable use permit for which the commission may impose conditions under CBJ 49.15.320(f)(1)-(8) and such additional conditions areas are necessary to reduce to non-significant any impacts in the roaded service area on habitat, sound, screening, drainage, traffic, lighting, safety, dust, surface subsidence, avalanches, landslides, or erosion.*

Summary Approval requirements will be addressed in the Analysis Section of this report.

BACKGROUND

The Greens Creek Mine is an underground multi-metal mine near Hawk Inlet on northern Admiralty Island, located approximately 18 miles southwest of Juneau. The mine has been in operation since 1989 with one, two-year period of temporary closure. Major components of the mine include the underground mine, mill, waste rock disposal areas, tailings disposal facility (TDF), a port site and camp, and roads and power infrastructure.

The City and Borough of Juneau annexed the property to include it within Borough boundaries in 1994. Following annexation, the Planning Commission approved the mine as Large Mine Permit #M-02-95. In 2004, Greens Creek Mine received Summary Approval from the Planning Commission for an expansion of its Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) by 62 acres, as MIN2004-00001.

In 2010, Greens Creek proposed a modification to its General Plan of Operations (required by the U.S. Forest Service) to expand its TDF to accommodate additional tailings and waste rock. The current facility is approved to hold 5.3 million cubic yards of tailings and waste rock in approximately 62 acres. The facility is expected to reach capacity in 2019 or sooner. To continue operations, Greens Creek requested an expansion of the TDF to hold an additional 14.2 million cubic yards. This led to a three-year environmental review process among state and federal agencies, with cooperation from the City and Borough of Juneau, which resulted in the Final Record of Decision and Final Environmental Impact Statement released in September 2013. The final approval from the U.S. Forest Service reduced the expansion to less than 10 percent of the original request, for 2.1 million cubic yards instead of 14.2 million.

Greens Creek Mine uses a combination of cut and fill and long-hole mining methods to remove ore and waste rock. Approximately half of the tailings and waste rock are backfilled into mining voids to provide stability within mined-out areas; the remaining materials are disposed of at the Tailings Disposal Facility. No changes in this process are proposed with Alternative D Modified. The mine processes approximately 2,200 tons of ore per day.

The current reclamation bond for the development is \$26,238,518. The bond is held by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) as authorized in a Memorandum of Understanding between USFS, the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), and the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR). In the Draft Waste Management Permit, included as Attachment 3C, ADEC has proposed increasing the reclamation bond amount to \$65,342,437. Public comment on this proposal ended on July 21, 2014. The final determination on the bond amount has not yet been announced.

ANALYSIS

1. 49.65.155 (b)(2)(A). The change in mining operations does not constitute a new land use.

CBJ 49.80.120 defines a new land use as a use falling under a different category in the Table of Permissible Uses than the “mining operations” use designation in 14.400. The creation and/or expansion of a tailings disposal facility can only happen in connection with a mining activity in which tailings material is produced. Tailings disposal, as an essential component of mine operations in the same manner as excavation and milling, easily falls under 14.400, Mining Operations, in the Table of Permissible Uses.

The proposal expands the existing tailings storage area but does not add or propose land uses that are inconsistent with, or unrelated to, management and expansion of the tailings storage area or related mining operations. Therefore the proposal does not constitute a new land use.

Staff finds that Summary Approval Criterion One is met.

2. 49.65.155 (b)(2)(A). *The change in mining operations does not constitute a separate development.*

CBJ 49.80.120 defines separate development as a facility or infrastructure located outside the land area encompassing, and not an integral part of, the mining operation for which a development permit already exists. The tailings disposal facility, as proposed for expansion, is located within the land area encompassing the mining operation and is an integral part of the mining operation. Mining operations could not proceed as planned without expanded facilities for tailings disposal, improvements for groundwater management and quarry and reclamation materials. The mining operation has an existing development permit under CBJ 49.65.190, which provides that pre-existing and pre-approved large mines in territory annexed to the City and Borough are presumptively permitted provided that all state and federal permits and approvals remain valid. Greens Creek met this requirement at the time the mine was annexed to the City and Borough and was granted Large Mine Permit # M-02-95.

Staff finds that Summary Approval Criterion Two is met.

3. 49.65.155 (b)(2)(A)(i). *The mine is located entirely outside the roaded service area established in CBJ 01.30.320.*

Attachment 4 illustrates the roaded service area and the location of the Greens Creek mine and tailings facility. The mine is located approximately 18 miles outside of the roaded service area.

Staff finds that Summary Approval Criterion Three is met.

4. **49.65.155 (b)(2)(A)(ii).** *The application is complete, providing all of the information necessary for the Director to make the summary approval determinations set forth in subsections (i)-(iv)*

The application is complete, and provides all of the information necessary for the Director to make a Summary Approval determination.

Staff finds that Summary Approval Criterion Four is met.

5. **49.65.155 (b)(2)(A)(iii).** *The proposed change in mining operations will have no significant impact within the roaded service area on habitat, sound, screening, drainage, traffic, lighting, safety, dust, surface subsidence, avalanches, landslides or erosion.*

The Greens Creek mine is approximately 18 miles from the City and Borough's roaded service area boundary. Impacts from the proposed action will occur almost entirely on-site. Where impacts may extend off-site, such as dust emissions from road surfaces or from the tailings pile surface, the effects will be localized and will occur outside the roaded service area boundary.

The applicant has addressed each of the subjects listed in CBJ 49.65.155(b)(2)(A)(iii) in the application narrative and attachments, and through references to the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Greens Creek tailings disposal. The applicant's submittal and the FEIS provide sufficient information to conclude that no significant impact will occur within the roaded service area as a result of the proposed action.

Each of the twelve subjects listed in 49.65.155(b)(2)(A)(iii) is discussed below.

Habitat. Expansion of the tailings storage area will directly impact approximately 13 acres of wetlands, primarily forested wetlands, which are outside of the categorized area of the 1992 Juneau Wetlands Management Plan. The applicant has proposed 48 acres of wetland preservation on south Douglas Island as mitigation. The selected alternative does not allow Greens Creek Mine to fill or otherwise directly affect any class I or class II stream.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement includes an exhaustive analysis of impacts to surface water, groundwater, air quality, geochemistry, aquatic resources (e.g. resident and non-resident fish populations), vegetation, wildlife, and threatened plant and animal species according to each alternative. Alternative D Modified has a limited degree of impact in many of these areas. This impact has been minimized because the expansion area is directly contiguous with existing operations and because the U.S. Forest Service's final decision granted authorization for less than 10 percent of Greens Creek Mine's original expansion request.

In each of these habitat areas, impacts have been confined within the mine site, outside of the roaded service area. There is potential for minor impacts to water quality and air quality in areas immediately adjacent to the mine site. However these impacts are unlikely to extend across Stephens Passage and into the roaded service area.

The selected alternative, like all of the alternatives, requires Greens Creek Mine to collect and treat water for a minimum of 100 years until it can meet Alaska Water Quality Standards. The treated water will continue to discharge into Hawk Inlet, in compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act, under an Alaska Pollution Discharge System (APDES) permit.

Sound. Operation of the tailings storage area produces several sources of sound including the operation of dump trucks and heavy equipment, a tire-washing station, a water treatment plant and a rock pit. Ambient noise at the tailings facility is discernable at the site but is not discernable at the ore loading facility at Hawk Inlet one mile away. Episodic noise may be discernable at a further distance from the site, but is not expected to be audible within the roaded service area of the City and Borough.

Screening. The Tailings Disposal Facility, at its final height, may be visible from Hawk Inlet, partially screened by a buffer of evergreen trees between the site and the shoreline. The top layer of the four-layer, engineered cap on the tailings pile will be vegetated with native species. No portion of the site is visible from the roaded service area, nor are there nearby residences or other permanent activities or uses that might benefit from screening.

Drainage. As noted in the Habitat sub-category and other sections of this report, Greens Creek Mine is required to collect and treat water for a minimum of 100 years. The Greens Creek deposit is a massive sulfide deposit, which means that when the tailings are exposed to air, sulfuric acid is formed that can leach metals from the tailings material.

The Tailings Disposal Facility is constructed to minimize surface and groundwater penetration. During mine operations, surface water is collected in ditches and routed around the tailings pile. Groundwater flow into the tailings pile is minimized by underground barrier structures placed around the perimeter of the pile during construction. Other measures used to manage water flow around and through the tailings pile include diversions, french drains, finger drains, blanket drains, sumps and temporary capping of the pile.

The mine operation includes many additional measures, all of which are heavily scrutinized by state and federal regulatory agencies, to minimize or eliminate acid rock drainage. These measures include, in part, the following:

- Backfill of approximately 50 percent of the tailings within existing mine voids
- Collection ditches to gather and treat all water that comes into contact with waste rock or tailings
- Wheel wash facilities to reduce tracking of mine waste onto clean roads
- A detailed interim and final reclamation plan that includes an engineered four-layer tailings soil cover
- An extensive water quality monitoring program

Traffic. Expansion of the tailings storage area will not result in expanded employment at the mine. Employment is forecast by the mining company to remain at approximately 400 employees. The marine commute from the Gitkov dock at Auke Bay to the mine dock at Young Bay will remain the same. Consequently, no change or increase in existing traffic within the roaded service area is anticipated as a result of this action.

Lighting. The Greens Creek mine operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. During nighttime operations, and during operations in the winter months, on-site lighting will be used at the tire-washing station and could be placed elsewhere on the site to aid trucks that are hauling tailings. This light will be visible from Hawk Inlet, but will not be visible from the roaded service area.

Safety. Greens Creek Mining Company has implemented a mining and worker safety program beyond the minimum requirements of the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). All mine operations except for the ferry transportation facility are outside of the roaded service area. No changes to transportation are proposed with the development which would lead to impacts within the roaded service area.

Dust. Tailings are composed of silt-sized particles and have a moisture content of approximately 12%. This is the ideal percentage for placement and compacting. Though the tailings are moist, precautions are still taken to mitigate wind-borne dispersal. Tailings are transported by covered truck to the Tailings Disposal Facility and trucks are required to exit through a high-pressure tire-washing station that hoses down the tires, rims and lower bodies of vehicles. Tailings are placed on specific locations of the pile, are mechanically spread into 18-inch lifts, then compacted with a vibratory roller. The resulting hard, smooth surface is resistant to airborne erosion. The sloped perimeter portions of the site are initially covered in argillite (a net neutralizing waste rock) or peat moss, then hydro-seeded with a combination of grass and clover, or layered with coarse rock, to hold the surface material in place.

Dry, windy weather conditions, primarily in the winter months, can result in the dispersal of tailings from the site as a localized condition. Greens Creek Mine has an extensive dust monitoring program, implemented in 2007. Loading concentrations of dust have decreased since then due to a variety of abatement measures voluntarily implemented by mine personnel. Dust impacts have been localized and are not expected to have any discernable effect within the roaded service area approximately 18 miles away.

Surface Subsidence. Expansion of the tailings disposal area is not anticipated to result in surface subsidence. The tailings pile itself will reach a height of 330 feet above sea level. Porous areas and voids are significantly minimized by careful, thin placement of lifts which are continuously compacted, while up to fifty percent of the mine tailings and waste rock are back-filled within mine tunnels. The resulting tailings pile will not be susceptible to subsidence.

Avalanches. No avalanches have occurred within the mine lease area since the original construction of the mine began in 1987, nor are any avalanche chutes mapped with the mine lease area. There are

no known avalanche chutes along the routes used by Greens Creek on Admiralty Island. There are probable avalanche chute areas on the opposite (south) side of Greens Creek from the road, near the mine and mill. Avalanche events, if they were to occur, would have no physical impact within the roaded service area.

Landslides. The areas most likely for landslides are in the steep, up-valley creek drainages, such as the location of the mine portal on Greens Creek. Localized events, if they were to occur, would have no physical impact within the roaded service area.

Erosion. The tailings pile is designed and constructed to minimize water penetration. Over the course of time, water will penetrate the tailings pile and flow through it, but at an incremental pace, not at an erosive pace. No erosion impacts related to the proposed action will occur within the roaded service area.

Staff recommends that Summary Approval Criterion Five is met.

6. *49.65.155(b)(2)(A)(iv). The proposed change in mining operations has undergone or is undergoing environmental review and approval by one or more federal agencies, state agencies, or both.*

The Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision were completed for the project in September 2013. The U.S. Forest Service acted as the lead agency for the project, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as Cooperating agencies under 40CFR 1501.6. The Alaska Departments of Fish and Game, Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, and City and Borough of Juneau Community Development Department served as coordinating agencies under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to assist in development and review of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements.

Staff finds that Summary Approval Criterion Six is met.

FINDINGS

The Director makes the following findings for each of the Summary Approval requirements:

1. The proposed activity is neither a new land use nor a separate development. The tailings storage area, in both its current and its proposed configuration, can be classified only under the “mining operations” category, 14.400, in the Table of Permissible Uses in CBJ 49.25.300. The Tailings Disposal Facility and related facilities are not a separate development. The facilities are located within the land area encompassing the mining operation, and are an integral part of the mining operation, for which a development permit already exists.
2. The mine is located entirely outside of the roaded service area.
3. The application material and subsequent material submitted by Greens Creek Mine is complete, and provides, or references in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, all of the information needed by the Director to make a Summary Approval determination.

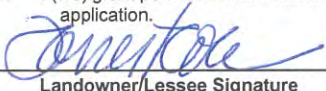
4. The proposed change in mining operations will have no significant impact within the roaded service area on habitat, sound, screening, drainage, traffic, lighting, safety, dust, surface subsidence, avalanches or erosion.
5. The proposed change in mining operations has undergone environmental review and approval through the preparation of Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements under the National Environmental Policy Act.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on an analysis of the proposed change in mining operations with regard to the standards in CBJ 49.65.155(b)(2)(A), the Director recommends that Summary Approval should be granted.

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

Project Number	CITY and BOROUGH of JUNEAU	Date Received:
Project Name (City Staff to Assign Name)		

INFORMATION	Project Description The Hecla Greens Creek Mine is requesting summary approval of the proposed expansion of our Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) under the City and Borough's mining ordinance. A project description is attached.		
	PROPERTY LOCATION		
	Street Address Admiralty Island	City/Zip Juneau, AK 99801	
	Legal Description(s) of Parcel(s) (Subdivision, Survey, Block, Tract, Lot) Greens Creek Mine (per CBJ Assessor's database)		
	Assessor's Parcel Number(s) 3A0101000010		
	LANDOWNER/ LESSEE		
	Property Owner's Name United States Forest Service	Contact Person: Forrest Cole	Work Phone: 907 228 6281
	Mailing Address 648 Mission Street	Home Phone:	Fax Number: 907 228 6292
	E-mail Address fcole@fs.fed.us	Other Contact Phone Number(s): Chad VanOrmer 907 789 6202	
	PROJECT / APPLICANT	LANDOWNER/ LESSEE CONSENT ****Required for Planning Permits, not needed on Building/ Engineering Permits****	
I am (we are) the owner(s) or lessee(s) of the property subject to this application and I (we) consent as follows:			
A. This application for a land use or activity review for development on my (our) property is made with my complete understanding and permission.			
B. I (we) grant permission for officials and employees of the City and Borough of Juneau to inspect my property as needed for purposes of this application.			
X			6.17.2014
Landowner/Lessee Signature		Date	
X			
Landowner/Lessee Signature		Date	
NOTICE: The City and Borough of Juneau staff may need access to the subject property during regular business hours and will attempt to contact the landowner in addition to the formal consent given above. Further, members of the Planning Commission may visit the property before the scheduled public hearing date.			
APPLICANT If the same as OWNER, write "SAME" and sign and date at X below			
Applicant's Name Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company		Contact Person: Mike Satre	
Mailing Address PO Box 32199 Juneau, Alaska 99803-2199		Work Phone: 907-523-1410	
E-mail Address msatre@hecla-mining.com		Home Phone: (c) 907-957-2149	
		Fax Number:	
		Other Contact Phone Number(s):	
X			
Applicant's Signature		Date of Application	

-----OFFICE USE ONLY BELOW THIS LINE-----

STAFF APPROVALS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permit Type	***SIGN	Date Received	Application Number(s)	
		Building/Grading Permit				
		City/State Project Review and City Land Action				
		Inquiry Case (Fee In Lieu, Letter of ZC, Use Not Listed)				
		Mining Case (Small, Large, Rural, Extraction, Exploration)				
		Sign Approval (If more than one, fill in all applicable permit #'s)				
		Subdivision (Minor, Major, PUD, St. Vacation, St. Name Change)				
		Use Approval (Allowable, Conditional, Cottage Housing, Mobile Home Parks, Accessory Apartment)				
		Variance Case (De Minimis and all other Variance case types)				
		Wetlands Permits				
		Zone Change Application				
		Other (Describe)				
	***Public Notice Sign Form filled out and in the file.					
	Comments:					Permit Intake Initials

LARGE MINE PERMIT APPLICATION

(Urban)

Project Number	Project Name (15 characters)	Case Number	Date Received
		MLG20140001	6/20/14

LOCATION OF PROPOSED MINE:

GREEN'S CREEK MINE

WILL THE PROPOSED MINING ACTIVITIES HAVE IMPACTS ON THE MINING AND EXPLORATION EXCLUSION DISTRICT? ☐ Yes ☐ No

IMPACTS: _____

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY WHICH REQUIRES A MINING PERMIT:

SUMMARY APPROVAL OF PROPOSED EXPANSION OF TAILINGS DISPOSAL FACILITY

PREVIOUS EXPLORATION NOTICES AND/OR MINING PERMITS? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Previous Case Number(s), if known: _____

UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF LAND OR BUILDING(S): _____

WHAT IS THE TOTAL AREA TO BE DISTURBED? _____ acres

HAS A FINANCIAL WARRANTY BEEN ESTABLISHED? ☐ Yes ☐ No

AMOUNT \$ _____ WARRANTY HOLDER _____

CONTACT INFORMATION OF WARRANTY HOLDER: _____

For more information regarding the permitting process and the submittals required for a complete application, please see the reverse side.

If you need any assistance filling out this form, please contact the Permit Center at 586-0770.

LARGE MINE PERMIT FEES

	Fees	Check No.	Receipt	Date
Application Fees	\$ <u>1600.00</u>			
Admin. of Guarantee	\$ _____			
Adjustment	\$ _____			
Pub. Not. Sign Fee	\$ _____			
Pub. Not. Sign Deposit	\$ _____			
Total Fee	\$ <u>1600.00</u>	<u>30072</u>	<u>CDD5381</u>	<u>6/20/14</u>

NOTE: MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION FORM

Large Mine Permit Application Instructions

Applications for Large Mine Permits are reviewed by the Planning Commission as a Conditional Use permit at a public hearing. The permit procedure is intended to provide the Commission the flexibility necessary to make decisions tailored to individual applications. The Commission may stipulate conditions to mitigate external adverse impacts from the proposed use. If it is determined that these impacts cannot be satisfactorily overcome, the permit shall be denied.

Pre-Application Conference: A pre-application conference is required prior to submitting an application. The applicant will meet with City & Borough of Juneau and Agency staff to discuss the proposed development, the permit procedure and to determine the application fees. To schedule a pre-application conference, please contact the Permit Center at 586-0770 or via e-mail at Permits@ci.juneau.ak.us.

Application: An application for a Large Mine Permit will not be accepted by the Community Development Department until it is determined to be complete. The items needed for a complete application are:

Forms: A completed Large Mine Permit Application and Development Permit Application form. The "land owner or lessee consent" signature is mandatory for all landowners on the Development Permit Application form.

Fees: The fee for a Large Mine Permit Application is \$3,600.00, plus any special fee established pursuant to CBJ49.65.130. Any development, work or use done without a permit issued will be subject to double fees. All fees are subject to change.

Project Description: A detailed letter or narrative describing the proposed mining activities, which includes:

- A. A map on a scale of 1:63,360, or a more detailed scale, a description of the mine site and affected surface; description and timetable of the proposed mining operation, including all roads, buildings, processing and related facilities;
- B. A description and timetable of proposed reclamation of affected surface;
- C. A description of proposals for the sealing of open shafts, adits and tunnels upon the completion or temporary cessation of mining operations;
- D. A description of methods to be used to control, treat, transport and dispose of hazardous substances, sewage and solid waste;
- E. A description of other potential environmental, health, safety and general welfare impacts, as well as impacts on neighboring property and measures to be taken to mitigate their adverse effects; and
- F. A Socioeconomic Impact Assessment 49.65130(C)(1) through (2).

Supplemental Information: The application shall also contain:

- A. Additional information prepared by the operator for its feasibility studies and mining plans, including information establishing the right to use the affected surface, labor force characteristics and timing, payroll projections, anticipated duration of the mining operation, construction schedules, infrastructure description, and other information reasonably requested by the department in the pre-application conference held pursuant to subsection 49.15.330(b); and
- B. An Environmental Impact Statement if it is required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Plans: All plans are to be drawn to scale and clearly show the items listed below:

- A. Site plan, floor plan and elevation views of existing and proposed structures, describing the materials and colors proposed;
- B. Existing and proposed parking areas, including dimensions of the spaces, aisle width and driveway entrances;
- C. Proposed traffic circulation within the site including access/egress points and traffic control devices;
- D. Existing and proposed lighting;
- E. Existing and proposed landscaping with location, area, height and type of plantings; and
- H. Existing physical features of the site (i.e. drainage, eagle trees, hazard areas, salmon streams, wetlands, etc.).

Document Format: All information that is submitted as part of an application shall be submitted in either of the following formats:

- A. Electronic copies may be submitted by CD, DVD or E-mail in the following formats: .doc, .txt, .xls, .bmp, .pdf, .jpg, .gif, .xlm, .rtf or other formats pre-approved by the Community Development Department.
- B. Paper copies may not be larger than 11" X 17" (Unless a larger paper size is preapproved by the Community Development Department).

Please consult with the Community Development Department to discuss whether additional information may be required for your application. The "Planner-On-Call" can be reached by contacting the Permit Center at 586-0770 or via e-mail at Permits@ci.juneau.ak.us.

Application Review, Hearing Procedure and Permit Issuance: Once the application is determined to be complete, the Community Development Department will initiate the review and scheduling of the application. This process includes:

Review: Within 20-days of receipt of an application the Community Development Department (Department) will conduct a preliminary review of the application and schedule a meeting with the applicant/operator to request additional information and to establish a procedure/schedule for the coordinated review of the application with the review by other agencies.

Unless the operator agrees to an extension, within 90 days after the Department has received all additional information requested at the initial meeting described in 49.65.130(d) and the fee has been established, the Department shall complete its review of the application, unless an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Department shall form a recommendation as to whether the permit should be approved and, if so, it shall make a recommendation on the amount of the financial warranty as provided in section 49.65.140. The Department's recommendation may include such conditions or stipulations as the Department deems to be reasonably necessary to mitigate any adverse environmental, health, safety or general welfare impacts which may result from the proposed mining operation. The Department's recommendations shall be provided to the operator and forwarded to the Planning Commission where the matter shall be placed on agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting after notice has been published as provided in section 49.15.230. The application shall then be heard as a Conditional Use Permit application as provided in chapter 49.15, article III, as modified by this article.

If the department determines that the proposed mining operation does not meet the standards of sections 49.65.135 and 49.15.330, the Department shall advise the operator. The operator may then either withdraw its application or allow the Department's recommendation to be forwarded to the Planning Commission. If the application is withdrawn, it may be revised and submitted within 180 days upon payment of an additional processing fee as determined by the Department to be reasonably necessary to defray its cost of reviewing the revised application. Revised applications shall be processed in accordance with the procedures set forth in CBJ49.65.130 subsections (d), (e), (f) and (h).

Hearing: All Large Mining Permit Applications will be heard by the Planning Commission as a Conditional Use permit. Once the Planning Commission has determined the application, with stipulations or conditions as appropriate, satisfies the standards of CBJ49.65.135 and CBJ49.15.330, it shall approve the application and set the amount of the financial warranty.

Permit Issuance: The permit will not be issued until the applicant/operator has submitted a financial warranty in the amount set by the Planning Commission that is in a form satisfactory to the City and Borough of Juneau Attorney.

Please consult with the Community Development Department to discuss the review procedure required for your specific application. The "Planner-On-Call" can be reached by contacting the Permit Center at 586-0770 or via e-mail at Permits@ci.juneau.ak.us.

Public Notice Responsibilities: As part of the Conditional Use permitting process, all permit requests must be given proper public notice, which consists of the following:

Community Development Department: Will give notice of the pending Planning Commission meeting and its agenda in the local newspaper a minimum of 10-days prior to the meeting. Furthermore, the department will mail abutters notices to all property owners within 500-feet of the project site.

Applicant: Will post a sign on the site at least 14-days prior to the meeting. The sign shall be visible from a public right-of-way or where determined appropriate by the Department. Signs may be produced by the Community Development Department for a preparation fee of \$50, and a \$100 deposit that will be refunded in full if the sign is returned by 4:30 p.m. on the Monday following the scheduled hearing date. If the sign is returned later than the Monday after the Planning Commission meeting, but within two weeks of the meeting, \$50.00 may be refunded. The applicant may make and erect their own sign. Please speak with the Community Development Department for more information.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED



Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company
P.O. Box 32199
Juneau, AK 99803-2199

Date: June 20, 2014

The Hecla Greens Creek Mine is requesting summary approval of the proposed expansion of our Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) under the City and Borough's mining ordinance. We believe that our application meets the requirements for summary approval per CBJ Code 49.65.155(2)(A) as follows:

The mine and TDF is located completely outside of the roaded service area established in CBJ 01.30.320. The proposed expansion of the TDF is approximately 18 miles southwest of Juneau, and due to its location near Hawk Inlet is not visible from any part of the roaded service area. This ensures that there will be no additional impact from this proposed project within the roaded service area on habitat, sound, screening, drainage, traffic, lighting, safety, dust, surface subsidence, avalanches, landslides, or erosion.

During the pre-application meeting, questions regarding additional traffic impacts due to employees commuting to work within the roaded service area were posed. There will be no additional impact to traffic as expansion of the TDF will not result in expanded employment at the mine. Employment is forecasted to remain at approximately 400 employees and the daily marine commute to Admiralty Island from Gitkov Dock in Auke Bay will remain unchanged with 5 AM and 5 PM departures.

The proposed expansion has been the subject of a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review that was coordinated by the United States Forest Service (USFS) and involved multiple federal and state agencies as well as the City and Borough of Juneau. The Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the expansion was finalized in December of 2014. The project record for the NEPA process, including the ROD and FEIS may be found on the USFS website here: http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c5/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3gDfxMDT8MwRydLA1cj72BTUwMTAwgAykeaxRtBeY4WBv4eHmF-YT4GMHkidBvgAl6EdleDXlvfdrAJuM3388jPTdUvyA2NMMgyUQQAYrgQmg!!/dl3/d3/L2dJQSEvUUt3QS9ZQnZ3LzZfS000MjZOMDcxT1RVODBJN0o2MTJQRDMwODQ!/?project=32662

Hard copies of the ROD and FEIS were hand delivered to CDD on 6/2/14.

While the NEPA process is complete, prior to construction activities the TDF will require a US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 404 Permit and a State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Waste Management Permit. Details of the public notice and associated maps for the 404 permit and mitigation plan may be found here: <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices/tabid/3350/Article/478834/poa-1988-269-m5-hawk-inlet.aspx>

The ADEC Waste Management permit has been issued for public comment on 6/20/14 and may be found here: http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/largemine/greenscreek/pdf/gcwmp_draft.pdf#find

To support this request, we are also submitting the following materials:

1. CBJ Development Permit Application and \$1,600 Fee
2. Project Description
3. 11x17 Map titled "Site Location Plan"
4. 11x17 Map titled "Tailings Storage Area General Arrangement"
5. 11x17 Map titled "Tailings Storage Area General Arrangement" with wetlands overlay.
6. 11x17 Aerial photo of site titled "Lease Boundary Points Hecla Greens Creek Mine"
7. Photo of existing waste water treatment plant.
8. Photo of existing truck wash.
9. Photo of TDF, waste water treatment plant and pond 7 looking south towards Hawk Inlet.
10. Photo of placement of tailings on existing TDF.
11. Draft ADEC Waste Management Permit
12. USACOE Public Notice for 404 Permit Application and Mitigation Plan
13. Mitigation Plan for USACOE 404 Permit

A site visit to support the application has also been requested and we have agreed to hold that on July 9 when we host the annual regulatory agency site visit at the mine.

Thank you for your consideration,



Mike Satre
Manager of Government and Community Relations
Hecla Greens Creek Mining Co.
PO Box 32199 Juneau, AK 99801
T: 907.523.1410
C: 907.957.2149
E-Mail: msatre@hecla-mining.com

Project Description:

The Greens Creek Mine is located on Admiralty Island approximately 18 miles southwest of Juneau, Alaska. The mine has been in operation since 1989 with a 2-year period of temporary closure. Major mine facilities include the underground mine, mill, waste rock disposal areas, tailings disposal facility (TDF), a port site and camp, roads and power infrastructure among the mine components. The mine produces lead and zinc concentrates that also contain silver. The Greens Creek Mine is operated by Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company (HGCMC).

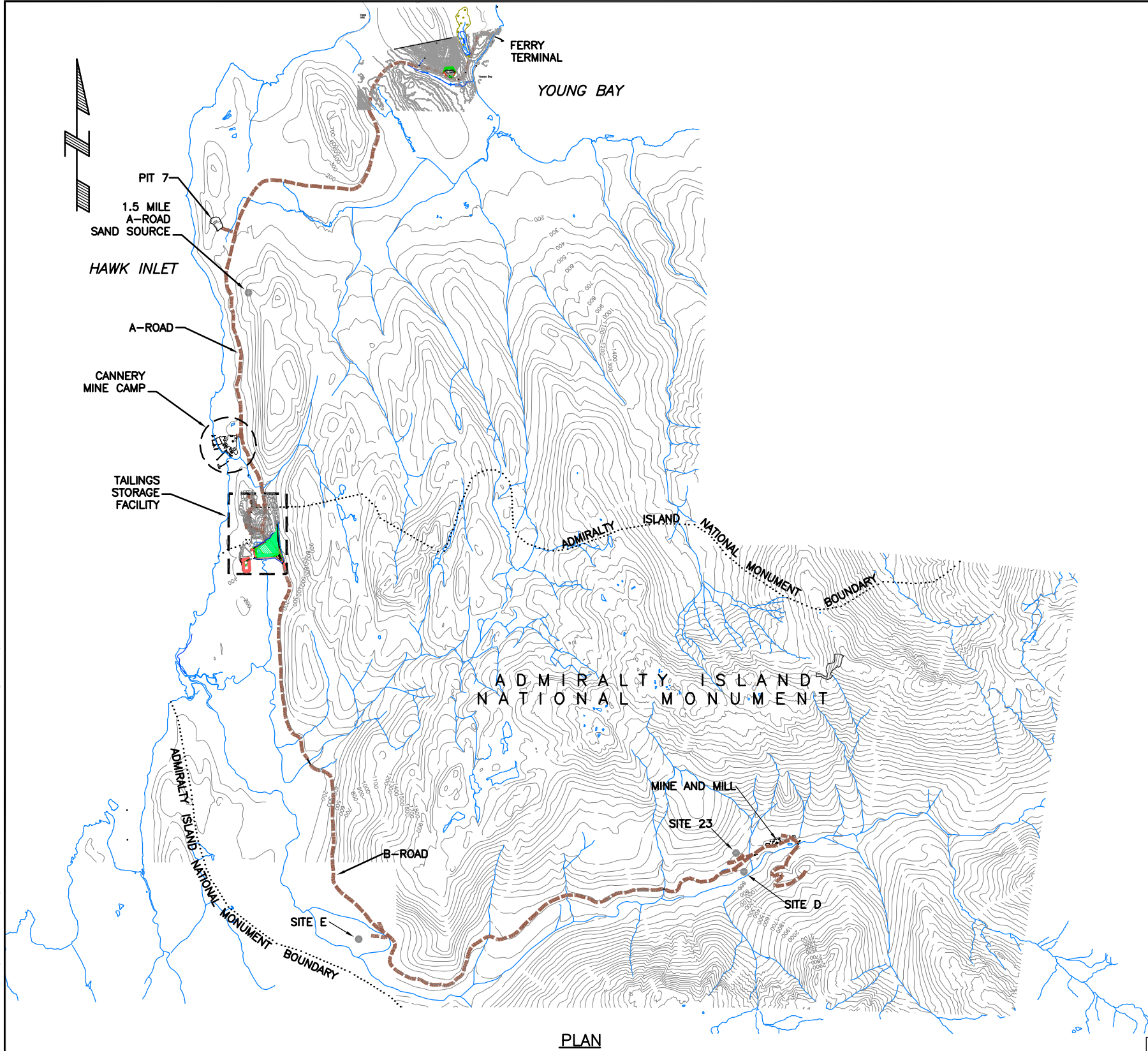
In 2010, HGCMC proposed a modification to its General Plan of Operations (GPO) to expand the TDF so that it can accommodate an additional 30 to 50 years' worth of tailings and waste rock. Tailings are disposed via dry stacking along with co-disposed waste rock. The TDF is currently approved to hold 5.3 million cubic yards of tailings and waste rock and cover approximately 62 acres. At the current mining rate, the TDF will be filled to capacity in 2019. In order to continue operations, HGCMC has requested an expansion of the TDF to hold an additional 14.2 million cubic yards of tailings and waste rock.

In December of 2013, the United States Forest Service (USFS) issued a Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that allowed for significantly smaller expansion that had been originally requested. The USFS selected a modified Alternative D as the preferred alternative which allows for 2.1 million cubic yards of tailings and waste rock to be placed resulting in approximately 10 more years of operation at the currently projected rates of fill. More specifically, the modified Alternative D allows for:

- Expansion of the existing tailings disposal facility (TDF) southward into the Monument;
- Development of a reclamation material storage area near the junction of the A and B roads, outside of the Monument;
- Development of a rock quarry north of the existing TDF, and access from within the existing facility, outside of the Monument;
- Development of a new water management pond south of the existing TDF and expansion of existing water management ponds; and
- Relocation of the B road and truck wheel wash facility to accommodate the TDF expansion.

The entire project record related to the FEIS may be found at the USFS website: http://www.fs.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsinternet!/ut/p/c5/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3gDfxMDT8MwRydLA1cj72BTUwMTAwgAykeaxRtBeY4WBv4eHmF-YT4GMHkidBvgAI6EdleDXlvfdrAJuM3388jPTdUvyA2NMMgyUQQAyrgQmg!!/dl3/d3/L2dJQSEvUUt3QS9ZQnZ3LzZfS000MjZOMDcxT1RVODBJN0o2MTJQRDMwODQ!/?project=32662

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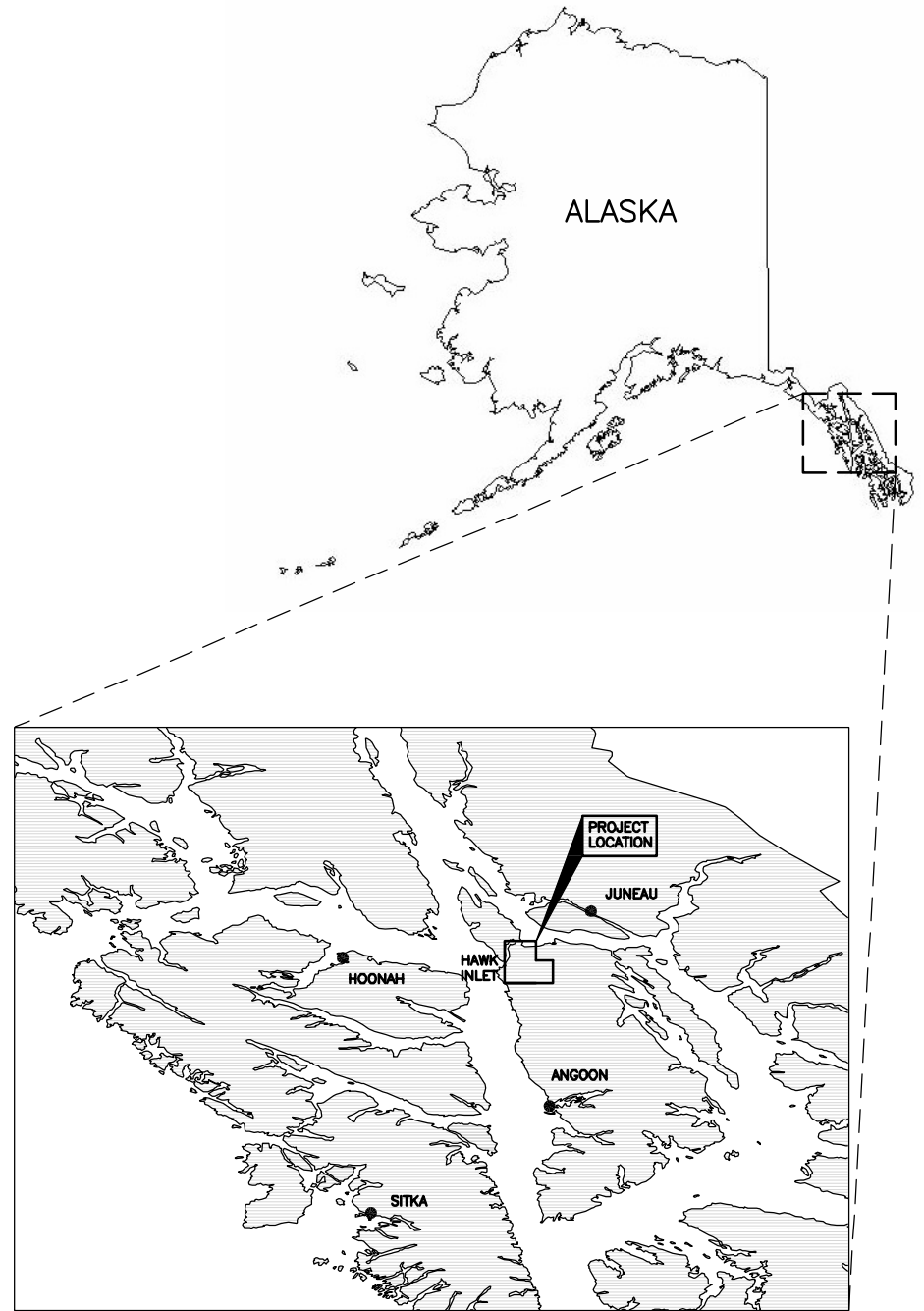
PLAN

NOTES:

1. BASE PLAN PROVIDED BY HGCMC, OCTOBER 2000.
2. CONTOUR INTERVAL IS 100 FT.
3. ELEVATIONS ARE IN FEET UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
4. COORDINATES AND ELEVATIONS ARE REFERENCED TO MINE DATUM FOR TAILINGS FACILITY ONLY.

0	APPROVED FOR TENDER	2013-12-19	CW	BO	LC	LM
REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE (YYYY-MM-DD)	DRAWN	DESIGNED	CHECKED	APPROVED

ATTACHMENT 3-A



KEY PLAN
SCALE: NTS

APPROVED FOR TENDER

SCALE A 0 5000 FT

AS A MUTUAL PROTECTION TO OUR CLIENT, THE PUBLIC AND OURSELVES, ALL REPORTS AND DRAWINGS ARE SUBMITTED FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF OUR CLIENT FOR A SPECIFIC PROJECT AND AUTHORIZATION FOR USE AND/OR PUBLICATION OF DATA, STATEMENTS, CONCLUSIONS OR ABSTRACTS FROM OR REGARDING OUR REPORTS AND DRAWINGS IS RESERVED PENDING OUR WRITTEN APPROVAL.

CLIENT

HECLA GREENS CREEK MINING COMPANY



PROJECT

TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY
STAGE 3 - PHASE 1 EXPANSION

TITLE

SITE LOCATION PLAN

SCALE
AS SHOWN

PROJECT NO.
M07802A64

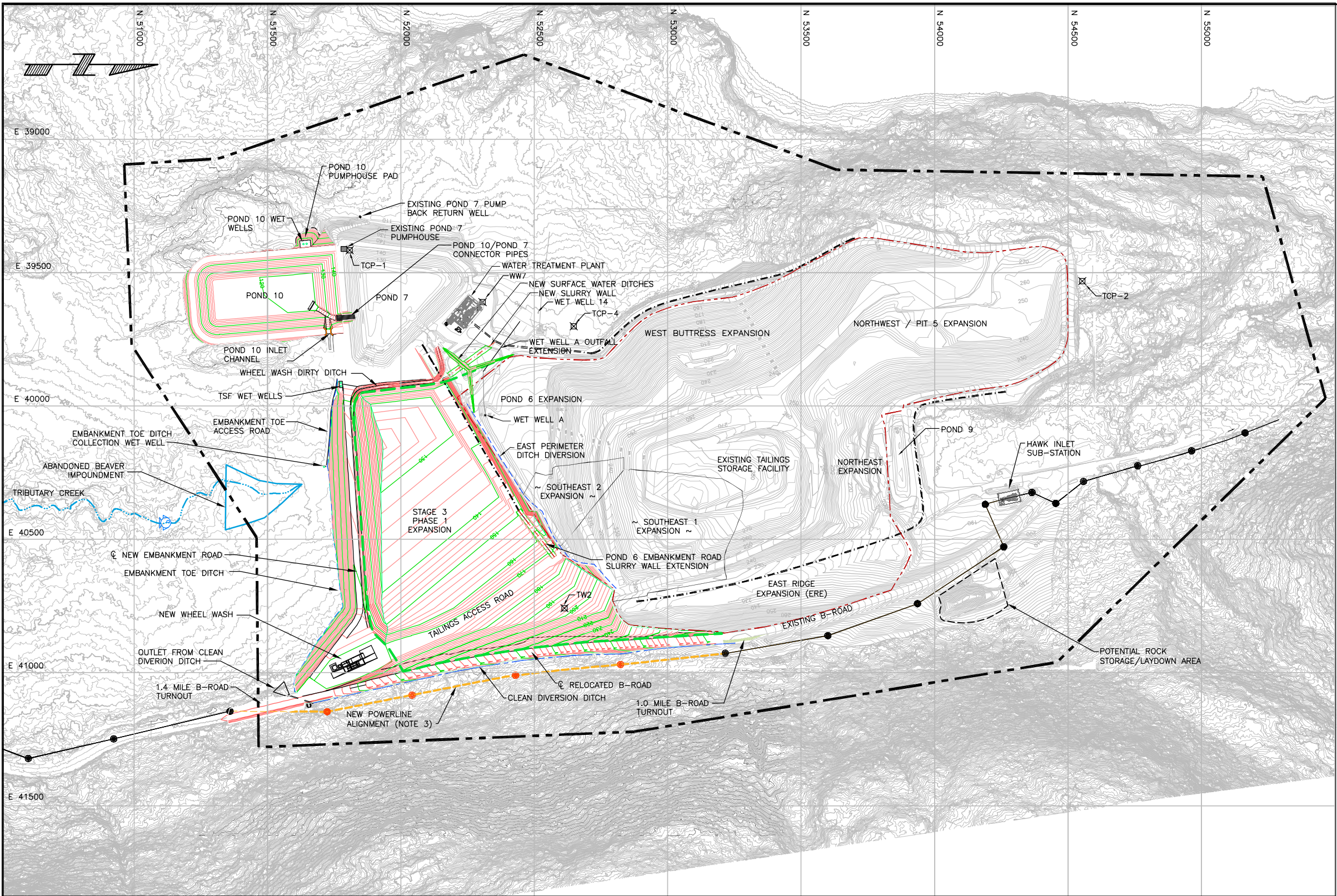
DWG. NO.
D-64001

REV.
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CANCEL PRINTS BEARING PREVIOUS REVISION

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Image File(s):



SURVEY CONTROL POINTS (ft)			
#	NAME	NORTHING	EASTING
1	TCP-1	51808	39415
2	WW7	52306	39610
3	TCP-4	52648	39701
4	TCP-2	54554	39531
5	TW2	52613	40758

ALL CONTROL POINTS ARE GPS COMPATIBLE.
CONTROL POINT TW2 WILL BE LOST DURING
DEMOLITION OF EXISTING TRUCK WASH.

LEGEND

- EXISTING TAILINGS PLACEMENT BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED STAGE 3 PHASE 1 TAILINGS BOUNDARY
- STAGE 3 LEASE BOUNDARY
- EXISTING SLURRY WALLS
- PROPOSED SLURRY WALLS
- EXISTING POWERLINE AND POLES
- NEW POWERLINE AND POLES
- SURVEY CONTROL POINTS
- POWER POLE
- FISH TRAP

GENERAL NOTES


- BASE TOPOGRAPHY AND ROAD PROVIDED BY HGCMC (MARCH 2013).
- LOCATIONS AND ELEVATIONS ARE IN FEET AND ALL COORDINATES AND ELEVATIONS ARE REFERENCED TO MINE DATUM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
- POWERLINE RELOCATION BY OTHERS.
- EXISTING DITCH ALIGNMENTS NOT SHOWN.
- EXISTING ROCK STORAGE/LAYDOWN AREA, WHEEL WASH AREA, AND POND 7 LAYDOWN AREA ARE ALL POTENTIAL TEMPORARY CONTRACTOR LAYDOWN OR ROCK STORAGE AREAS.

APPROVED FOR TENDER

SCALE 200 0 200 FT

0	APPROVED FOR TENDER	2013-12-19	CW	BO	LC	LM
REVISION	DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	DATE (YYYY-MM-DD)	DRAWN	DESIGNED	CHECKED	APPROVED

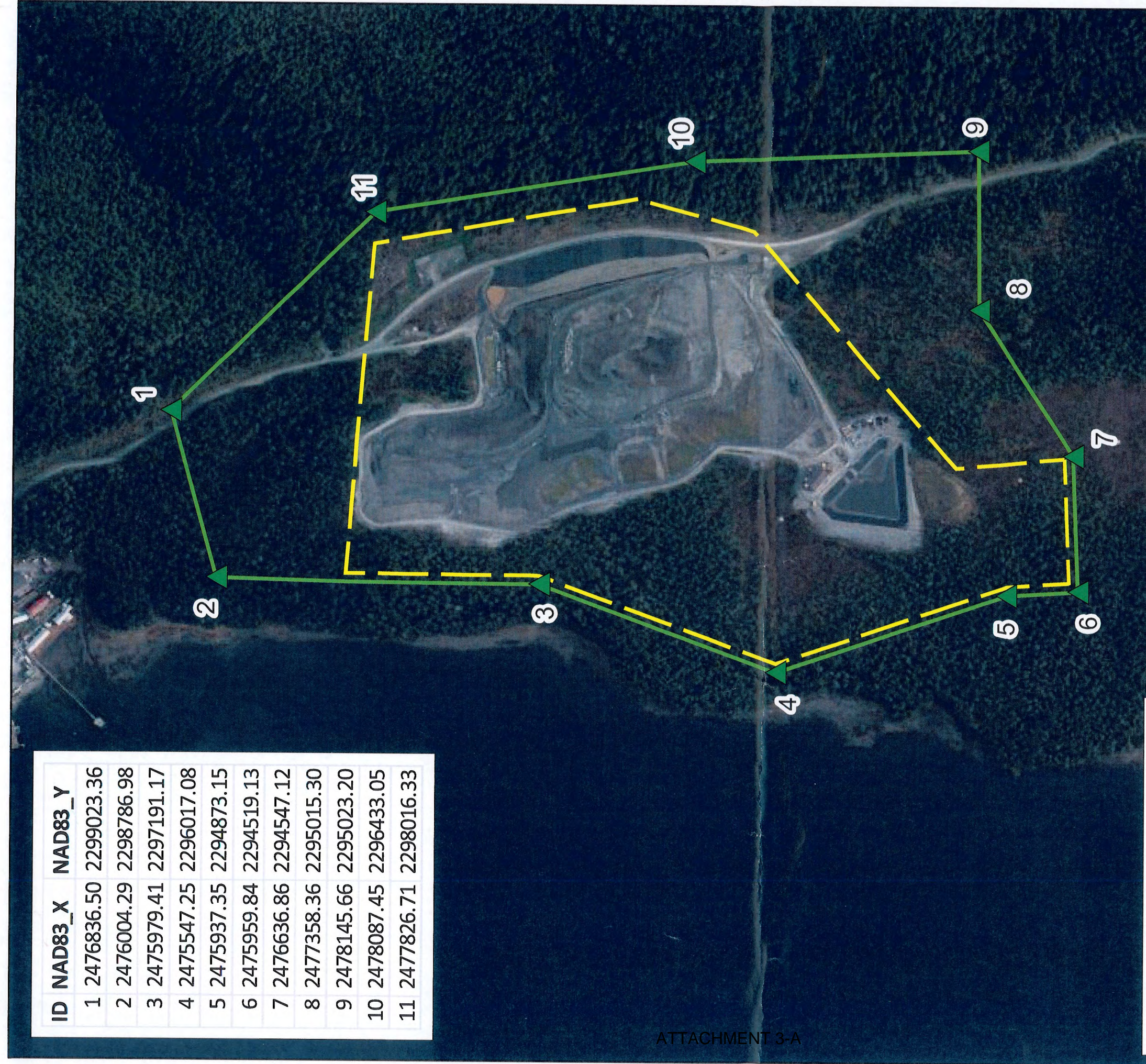
ATTACHMENT 3-A

AS A MUTUAL PROTECTION TO OUR CLIENT, THE PUBLIC AND OURSELVES, ALL REPORTS AND DRAWINGS ARE SUBMITTED FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF OUR CLIENT FOR A SPECIFIC PROJECT AND AUTHORIZATION FOR USE AND/OR PUBLICATION OF DATA, STATEMENTS, CONCLUSIONS OR ABSTRACTS FROM OR REGARDING OUR REPORTS AND DRAWINGS IS RESERVED PENDING OUR WRITTEN APPROVAL.	CLIENT HECLA GREENS CREEK MINING COMPANY		PROJECT TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY STAGE 3 - PHASE 1 EXPANSION			
			TITLE TAILINGS STORAGE AREA GENERAL ARRANGEMENT			
SCALE AS SHOWN	PROJECT NO. M07802A64	DWG. NO. D-64002	REV. 0			

CANCEL PRINTS BEARING PREVIOUS REVISION

KCR-DWG-0-1

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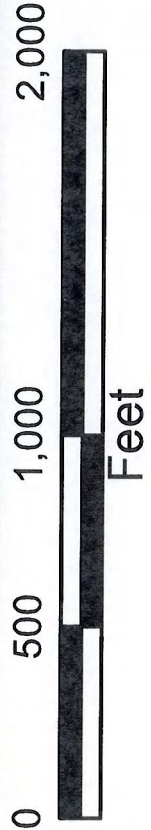


Legend

- ▲ Selected Boundary points
- Revised Selected Boundary
- Existing Boundary

Lease Boundary Points
Hecla Greens Creek Mine

All layers are projected in
 NAD 1983 StatePlane Alaska 1 FIPS 5001 Feet



RECEIVED
 JUN 20 2014
 PERMIT CENTER/CDD



ATTACHMENT 3-B



ATTACHMENT 3-B



PUBLIC NOTICE

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1800

Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Division of Water received an application for reissuance of a State of Alaska, Waste Management Permit under Alaska Statutes 46.03 and the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), 18 AAC 15, 18 AAC 60, 18 AAC 70, and 18 AAC 72.

Contact

Kyle Moselle, Large Project Coordinator
ADNR / Office of Project Management & Permitting
400 Willoughby Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99801
907-465-6849
kyle.moselle@alaska.gov

Public Notice Start **June 20, 2014**

Public Notice End **July 21, 2014**

Permit Draft Waste Management Permit No. 2014DB0003

Applicant Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company
Greens Creek Mine
P.O. Box 32199
Juneau, Alaska 99803-2199

Project Greens Creek Mine is an underground lead, zinc, silver, and gold mine. Containment and disposal of mine tailings, waste rock, and other mine-related wastes are subject to regulation under a DEC Waste Management Permit.

Location Greens Creek Mine is located 18 miles southwest of Juneau, Alaska near Hawk Inlet on northern Admiralty Island with federal and patented.

The DEC has tentatively determined to reissue a permit to the above listed applicant.

Public Comments

Written comments on the proposed permit must be submitted within 32 days of the first publication of this public notice or no later than July 21, 2014. Please direct written comments to the attention of Kyle Moselle at the address or email identified above. All comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter and a concise statement of comment on the permit condition(s) and the relevant facts upon which the comment is based. Comments of either support or concern which are directed at specific, cited, permit requirements



are appreciated. Comments must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

Any interested person may submit a written request for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing shall state the nature of the issues to be raised, as well as the requester's name, address and telephone number. DEC will hold a public hearing if it determines that good cause exists.

DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS
July 21, 2014 at 5:00 pm AKDT

Administrative Record

Copies of the proposed permit and application documents are available for public review at Juneau and Fairbanks DEC offices. Please contact either office to review hard copies of available documents.

410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303
Juneau, AK 99811
907-465-5300

610 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709
907-451-2100

These documents are also accessible at the following State website.

<http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/mining/largemine/greenscreek/>

The public notice bulletin may be viewed at the DEC Public Notices website,

http://www.dec.state.ak.us/public_notices.htm

For other inquiries, contact Kyle Moselle at the address listed above, email kyle.moselle@alaska.gov, or call **907-465-6849**.

Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact Deborah Pock at 907-269-0291 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 32 days of publication of this notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.





STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
610 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
FAIRBANKS, AK 99709-3643

WASTE MANAGEMENT PERMIT

for

Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company

Permit No. 2014DB0003

Date: Pending

This draft Waste Management Permit is proposed to be issued to Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company (HGCMC), P.O. Box 32199, Juneau, Alaska 99803-2199 for disposal of wastes from the Greens Creek Mine as described in permit section 1. HGCMC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hecla Mining Company. The Greens Creek Mine facilities are located near Hawk Inlet on northern Admiralty Island, in the Tongass National Forest, approximately 18 miles southwest of Juneau, Alaska. The mine site is situated partly within the Admiralty Island National Monument and completely within the municipal boundary for the City and Borough of Juneau. The land is comprised of federal and patented mining claims. This permit is authorized under the provisions of Alaska Statutes (AS) 46.03, and the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), 18 AAC 15, 18 AAC 60, 18 AAC 70 and 18 AAC 72, as amended or revised, and other applicable state laws and regulations. This permit is effective **pending**, and expires after **pending**. This permit may be terminated or modified according to AS 46.03.120. This permit succeeds Waste Management Permit No. 0211-BA001.

This permit is subject to the conditions and stipulations contained in sections 1 through 6, and it incorporates by reference *Hecla Greens Creek General Plan of Operations Appendix 1 Integrated Monitoring Plan June 2014 (IMP)*, *Hecla Greens Creek General Plan of Operations Appendix 3 Tailings Disposal Facility Management Plan June 2014 (tailings facility SOPs)*, *Hecla Greens Creek General Plan of Operations Appendix 7 Integrated Waste Management and Disposal Plan June 2014 (solid waste management plan)*, *Hecla Greens Creek General Plan of Operations Appendix 11 Waste Rock Management Plan June 2014 (waste rock management plan)*, and *Hecla Greens Creek General Plan of Operations Appendix 14 Reclamation and Closure Plan June 2014 (reclamation and closure plan)*. Changes to the documents incorporated herein must be approved by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (Department or DEC) if they affect this permit. All changes approved by the Department will become part of this permit.

After completing reclamation activities and terminating active wastewater treatment, the Department requires the permittee to conduct post-closure maintenance and monitoring for a minimum of 30 years. The permittee shall assess the conditions at the facility and respond accordingly throughout the post-closure care period. At the end of the post-closure period, the Department will determine whether post-closure care and monitoring should be extended beyond 30 years based upon the information collected by that time.



DRAFT

Wade Strickland
Program Manager

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