



Mineral & Coal Exploration Activities & Reclamation Permit

(Issued pursuant to Section 10 of the Mines Act R.S.B.C. 1996, c.293)

Permit Number: MX-3-131

Mine No: 0300150
Approval No: 17-0300150-0714

Permittee: Taseko Mines Ltd.
15th Floor-1040 Georgia Street W
Vancouver BC V6E 4H1

Business Phone: (250) 392-3100
Fax: (250) 392-3121

Name of Property: New Prosperity

Reclamation security amount: \$180,500

For exploration and reclamation activities at the following mineral/coal tenures: 314007, 209325, 314028, 314029, 209326, 516849, 516785, 787863, 314006, 1030098, 1011666, 1011672, 1011668

as described in the attached Notice of Work and Reclamation dated: October 17, 2016 and Revised November 7, 2016

Approved Activities

Table with 2 columns of activities and checkboxes. Activities include Access Roads, Trails, Heli Pads, Air Strips...; Application for Timber Cutting Authorization; Blasting; Camps, Buildings and Staging Areas; Cut Lines; Exploration Surface Drilling; Mechanical Trenching/Test Pits; Off-Tenure Access (SUP); Settling Ponds; Surface Bulk Sample; Underground Exploration; Water Supply/Use.

Date of Issuance: October 02, 2007

Date of Amendment: July 14, 2017

<Original signed by>

Rick Adams
Senior Inspector of Mines

The information on this form and any supporting documents are subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information requested on this form is collected and used for the purpose of administering the Mineral Exploration and Reclamation Permit. The Mines Act of British Columbia also authorizes the collection of the requested information on this form. The completed form is routinely available to the public. Questions about how the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act applies to the information collected on this form can be directed to the Mines Branch, phone (250)952-0492, fax (250)952-0491 or write to: PO Box 9320, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, British Columbia, V8W 9N3.

Permit Conditions

- **Compliance with Mines Act and Code:**

All exploration activities must be conducted in a manner that complies with the *Mines Act* and the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia.

- **Start of Exploration Activities Notification:**

Verbal or written notification to the regional Inspector of Mines is required prior to the start date of exploration activity.

- **Uranium and Thorium:**

Exploration for uranium or thorium is not approved under this permit.

- **Changes to the Permitted Activities:**

The regional Inspector of Mines must be notified if the Permittee wishes to materially alter the exploration activities approved herein. Approval must be received from the regional Inspector of Mines prior to commencement of an amended program of exploration activities when described in a Schedule.

- **Annual Summary of Exploration Activities:**

An Annual Summary of Exploration Activities shall be submitted to the regional Inspector of Mines before the end of March of every year the permit is in effect. Reclamation and other exploration activities undertaken in the previous year shall be submitted in the form prescribed by the Chief Inspector of Mines.

- **Notice of Mine Closure:**

A Notice of Mine Closure must be submitted to the regional Inspector of Mines when exploration by a Permittee at a permitted site is permanently discontinued.

- **Others:**

Environmental Protection Management Plans

a) The permittee must ensure all staff and contractors working on the exploration site area are adequately trained in the Environmental Protection and Management Plans for: Working in or Near Streams and Wetlands; Archaeological Management Plan for Exploration; and Sensitive Vegetation and Wildlife Habitat Features; the Chance Find Procedures contained within above Environmental Protection and Management Plans; and the Mine Emergency Response Plan.

b) The permittee must ensure the Environmental Protection and Management Plans for: Working in or Near Streams and Wetlands; Archaeological Management Plan for Exploration; and Sensitive Vegetation and Wildlife Habitat Features; the Chance Find Procedures contained within above Environmental Protection and Management Plans; and the Mine Emergency Response Plan are implemented for the exploration program.

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Assessments, Prescriptions, Notification and Access Restrictions

- c) The permittee must hire or contract a qualified cultural heritage monitor, with preference given to a qualified cultural heritage monitor nominated by the TNG (Tsilhqot'in National Government) should the TNG choose to nominate one, to conduct a cultural heritage assessment of all areas proposed for mechanical disturbance prior to disturbance.
- d) The permittee must hire or contract a qualified wildlife specialist with knowledge of the TNG's traditional food and medicine plants, with preference given to a qualified wildlife specialist nominated by the TNG should the TNG choose to nominate one, to develop reclamation prescription recommendations for the permittee's consideration and implementation for all newly disturbed areas where practicable.
- e) The permittee must notify the TNG on a weekly basis of the work completed within the last one week period, and the work planned for the upcoming two week period.
- f) In determining and implementing signage and access restrictions to ensure public and worker safety during the exploration program as required under the Code, the permittee must ensure the Mine Manager also gives consideration to the Tsilhqot'in's practice of their Aboriginal rights.

Minimizing Disturbance and Care in Construction

- g) The permittee must make all reasonable efforts to consult with the TNG and reach agreement on the preferred, and least impactful, route of access where options exist to locate trails either within standing timber or across open meadows.
- h) The permittee must utilize existing access or previously reclaimed access wherever possible, and locate new trails on gentle gradient slopes wherever possible, to minimize disturbance of the terrain and soils.
- i) For access trails that do require construction, the permittee must construct them with care, avoid grubbing, grading and blading wherever possible, and construct trails to the minimum dimensions required to meet operational and safety requirements.
- j) On exploration trails where heavier traffic will occur, the permittee must strip, salvage and windrow organic materials, and replace it when activities are completed.
- k) The permittee must locate new disturbances through pine-dominated forest and avoid clearing old forest of mixed species, wherever feasible.
- l) The permittee must ensure drill site, trench/test pit, and borrow site clearing is to the minimum amount of timber removal and disturbance required to meet operational and safety requirements.
- m) The permittee must carry out activities in a manner which minimizes soil loss, and must carry out progressive reclamation at all times subject to weather conditions.

Reclamation, Revegetation, Wildlife Forage, Wildlife Habitat Elements and Vehicle Access

- n) The permittee must retain potential furbearer denning trees wherever possible. Denning trees are cottonwood ≥ 90 cm diameter breast height, aspen ≥ 40 cm diameter breast height and lodgepole pine ≥ 35 cm diameter breast height.
- o) The permittee must retain furbearer forage areas of advanced coniferous regeneration and shrub understory wherever possible.
- p) The permittee must rip or otherwise de-compact all compacted surfaces.
- q) The permittee must retain or place >25 m³/ha of elevated coarse woody debris >20 cm diameter across all disturbance areas where sufficient coarse woody debris is available.

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- r) The permittee must establish coarse woody debris piles ≥ 5 m across and ≥ 2 m high across the entrances of all exploration trails, and where exploration trails intersect meadows, where sufficient coarse woody debris is available.
- s) The permittee must revegetate all disturbed areas with natural wildlife forage species wherever possible, and must use forestry range agronomic mix only to the degree necessary to control noxious weeds or erosion, or where no natural revegetation option is available.
- t) The permittee must re-establish mixed coniferous species in all disturbed areas suitable for coniferous species utilizing ≥ 2 year old, bare root or large plug size seedlings.
- u) The permittee must immediately backfill test pits upon completion of geological mapping and sampling, replace organics, salvaged vegetation, and coarse woody debris, and revegetate.
- v) The permittee must reclaim drill sites by re-contouring as required, replacing topsoil, organics, salvaged vegetation and coarse woody debris, and revegetating prior to the completion of the site investigation program.
- w) The permittee must provide all disturbed exploration trails roads with appropriate drainage structures including water bars.
- x) The permittee must fully deactivate all new and reactivated exploration trail disturbances at the end of the multi-year work program.
- y) The permittee must reclaim exploration trails by pulling back any side cast material, re-contouring as required, replacing topsoil, organics, salvaged vegetation and coarse woody debris, and revegetating.

Wildlife Protection

- z) The permittee must plan activities to minimize mechanical disturbance during spring moose calving season.
- aa) During the spring and summer, the permittee must ensure that all helicopter activity related to this Notice of Work is confined to Fish Creek Valley, and away from the Taseko River Valley and west-facing bluffs.
- bb) The permittee must report all crane or crane nest observations to MFLNRO Wildlife staff and cease work in those immediate areas if cranes are noted. If sand hill cranes are confirmed to be nesting in the wetlands, the permittee must cease drilling activity within 500 m of the wetland nesting areas until August 1st or until after cranes have left the area.
- cc) The permittee must review wildlife-specific inventory information, particularly for bald eagle and osprey nests, to ensure these nests and other significant wildlife habitat features are not disturbed or destroyed, and record and report any new significant wildlife habitat features or species at risk identified to MFLNRO Wildlife staff if observed.
- dd) Upon receipt of at least 2 weeks notice from the TNG of the location(s) and timing of their two significant cultural gatherings planned for the summer, and their healing camp in the fall, the permittee must avoid operating heavy equipment within 500 m of the gathering site(s) for a period of up to 3 days, or other time period and setback distance as may be agreed to by TML with the TNG.

Water and Riparian Protection

- ee) The permittee must ensure that an emergency spill kit is available on site at all time of operations that is of suitable size to account for the volume of hydrocarbons on site. The permittee must ensure that all employees are trained in its use.

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ff) The permittee must design the pump setups to capture hydrocarbon drips/leaks and prevent their release to the environment. The permittee must utilize a two-walled fuel tank, or secondary containment designed to capture 110% of fuel tank contents for pump fuel tanks.

gg) The permittee must utilize two-walled fuel tanks, or secondary containment designed to capture 110% of fuel tank contents, at all fuel storage sites.

hh) The permittee must contain and/or treat sediment contaminated water caused by any operation prior to discharge into any watercourse to ensure that there is no deposit of sediment, or any other deleterious substance, into any creek or its tributaries.

ii) The permittee must design and install all stream crossings to meet the minimum design peak flows identified within the Handbook for Mineral and Coal Exploration and Coal Exploration in British Columbia.

jj) The permittee must seal or grout all drill holes to prevent the discharge of water and/or potential contamination of groundwater upon completion, unless the drill holes will be used as sampling or monitoring wells.

Camp Location

kk) The permittee must establish the camp in proposed location B.