

Yukon Environmental & Socio-economic Assessment Act *pm09-654*
Decision Document

This document meets the Yukon government's requirements as a Decision Body as set out in the *Yukon Environmental & Socio-economic Assessment Act*.

Decision Document Issued By:

YG Decision Body:	EMR Mineral Resources
Federal Decision Body(ies):	[where applicable]
First Nation Decision Body(ies):	[where applicable]

Project:

Project Name:	Placer Mine on Hunker Creek	YESAA File Number: 2009-0195
Proponent Name:	David Gould	

Project Scope

The principal project is a placer mining operation on approximately 29 placer claims on Hunker Creek. Hunker Creek is a tributary of the Klondike River; the Klondike River is a tributary of the Yukon River. Activities are proposed to occur seasonally for 10 years.

Principal Activities Include:

- Processing (approx. 5000m³/yr)
- Water Use (2187m³/day from Hunker Creek)
- Removal of overburden (approx. 25,000m³/yr mechanically)
- Relocation of Hunker Creek Road (from claim P00227 upstream to P21354)

Accessory Activities Include:

- Use of existing ford (Hunker Creek)
- Drilling
- Storage of fuel (approx. 6000L of diesel)
- Out of stream reservoirs and settling ponds.
- Reclamation of mined area during and upon project completion

Other Decision Bodies:

Other Decision Body Consultation:	▪ [list decision bodies consulted where applicable]
Consolidated Decision Document:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes ▪ [list decision bodies consolidated with where applicable]



Non-Self Governing First Nations:

Non-Self Governing First Nation Consultation:	▪ [list First Nation consulted where applicable]
--	--

Decision

Pursuant to ss.75, 76 and 80, the Yukon government has considered the YESAA Assessment and:

<input type="checkbox"/>	a) Accepts the following recommendation(s):
--------------------------	---

<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Rejects the following recommendation(s) as follows for the reason(s) specified:
--------------------------	--

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c) Varies the following recommendation(s) as follows for the reason(s) specified:
-------------------------------------	---

YG accepts the following:

3. Whenever possible, the proponent shall restrict the use of heavy equipment to active mining areas and to designated access routes.
4. The proponent shall make best efforts to avoid the disruption of areas in a state of reclamation from previous mining operations.
7. The proposed activities must be situated, constructed, conducted and/or maintained to ensure that they do not pose a safety hazard to people traveling on the road.
8. The proponent shall ensure that adequate signage is provided to inform people that the Road has been moved and that the decommissioned road is no longer passable by vehicles.
9. The proponent shall ensure that the new road section is fully completed and operational to the same standard, if not better, than the original road to ensure continued access.

YG varies the following:

1. Any heritage resources located by the applicant while working within Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Territory shall be reported to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Heritage Department at 993-7100. Information regarding the location of these resources should include, for example, GPS coordinates and descriptive location, photographs, etc.

Justification:

The project takes place on Commissioner's land and falls within the mandate of Government of Yukon for heritage resources. The First Nations Heritage Departments are the lead department for heritage issues on Category A or Category B settlement land.

Replaced By:

Any heritage resources located by the proponent should be reported to the Chief of Mining Land Use.

YG varies the following:

2. If new clearing is proposed during the breeding period (May 1 to July 31), pre-clearing surveys should be conducted for nesting birds. If any SARA or COSEWIC listed species are found to be present: evidenced by active nests (incl. tree cavities) a 10-meter vegetation buffer zone should be maintained around nests.

Justification:

The proponent by law is required to follow the Migratory Birds Regulation

Replaced with:

The proponent and planners shall exhibit due diligence with regard to their responsibility under the Migratory Birds Regulation, specifically Section 6, which contains general prohibitions against the disturbance and destruction of nests.

YG varies the following:

5. The trapping concession owner is to be contacted as soon as practicable, prior to the actual commencement of activities to identify trapping infrastructure that could be impacted by the project during the non-trapping months.
6. The proponent shall ensure that project activities, including the use of roads, do not unnecessarily disturb other users from using the area.

Justification:

All resource users in any particular area should be communicating on their activities to reduce land use conflicts. General clause provides balance and expectation for all parties.

Replaced with:

The proponent and other permitted resources users (trappers, big game outfitters and wilderness tourism outfitters, quartz miners, other placer miners and subsistence harvesters) shall communicate plans and timing of activities to each other to reduce land use conflicts and any potential negative impacts on each other's interests.



Dates

Project Recommendation Issued: December 23, 2009	Decision Document Issued: January 15, 2010
--	--

Recommendation Received From:

		Location:
Designated Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dawson City
Executive Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Panel	<input type="checkbox"/>	a) Panel of the YESAB
	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) CEAA Panel
	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Joint Panel (YESAB and other assessment body)

Authorization

By signing below, the Yukon government has exercised its authority as per YESAA s. 75 or s. 76 to issue a decision document on this project.

Name: Robert Holmes Position: Director, Mineral Resources
 Signature: Date: January 15, 2010

Copies Forwarded to (as required by YESAA):

- Other Decision Bodies [list] _____
- Project Proponent [name] David Gould
- DAP Branch, Executive Council Office _____
- YESAB Designated Office [location] Dawson City
- YESAB Executive Committee [when applicable] _____
- Minister Environment (Canada) [when applicable] _____
- Yukon Surface Rights Board [when applicable] _____
- Yukon Water Board [when applicable] _____
- Land Use Planning Commission: [when applicable] _____
- Independent Regulatory Agency [when applicable] _____
- Other Body/Person as Required [List] _____